



ISSUES AND PROGRAMS REPORT

FOR

STATION WPTF

**1st QUARTER 2013
(January 1 – March 31st)**

Station Manager: David Stuckey
Station Program Director: Brian Freeman

Report compiled by:
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WPTF PROGRAMS THAT ADDRESS COMMUNITY ISSUES

WPTF operates an "All News, All Day" format that includes "in-depth" news coverage. Many of the "news segments" that air each weekday deal with issues of politics, economy, human relations, morality, and other general topics affecting the community and our listeners in the Raleigh-Durham area. In 24-hours, 680 WPTF airs 12 hours of news programming and 12 hours of informative talk programming each weekday.

1. North Carolina's Early Morning News and Morning News (Monday - Friday, 5:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.)

A locally-produced morning "news wheel," hosted by Brandon Dickson, Brian Freeman, Donna Martinez and Rick Martinez focusing on world, national and local news, plus weather, and traffic and interview segments throughout the show. The bulk of this weekday program is news, weather, traffic and other information to help listeners get their day started. The program includes updates from CBS Market Watch. There are regular guest appearances by people in the political, tech, business, legal, financial, and health care fields. Program participants engage in conversation about the headlines of the day. All interviews are between one-minute thirty seconds and three-minutes in length.

2. The Dave Ramsey Show (Monday - Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon)

National talk show hosted by Dave Ramsey who offers financial advice and how it involves life, love and relationships, and how they happen to revolve around money.

3. North Carolina's Mid-day News (Monday - Friday, 12:00 noon - 3:00 p.m.)

A locally-produced "news wheel," hosted by Scott Briggaman which focuses on world, national and local news, plus weather, and interview segments throughout the show. The program includes interviews with guests in the political, legal, financial, and health care fields. Program participants engage in conversation about the headlines of the day. All interviews are between one-minute thirty seconds and three-minutes in length.

4. North Carolina's Afternoon News (Monday - Friday, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.)

A locally-produced "news wheel," hosted by Marla Roth focusing on world, national and local news, plus weather, and interview segments throughout the show. The program includes interviews with people in the political, legal, financial, and health care fields. Program participants engage in conversation about the headlines of the day. All interviews are between one-minute thirty seconds and three-minutes in length

5. North Carolina's Evening News (Monday - Friday, (5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.)

A locally-produced "news wheel," hosted by Bruce Ferrell, focuses on world, national and local news, plus weather, and interview segments throughout the show. The program includes interviews with guests in the political, legal, financial, and health care fields. Program participants engage in conversation about the headlines of the day. All interviews are between one-minute thirty seconds and three-minutes in length

6. The Dave Ramsey Show (Monday - Friday, 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.)

National talk show hosted by Dave Ramsey who offers financial advice and how it involves life, love and relationships, and how they happen to revolve around money.

7. Clark Howard (Monday – Friday, 8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.)

The nationally produced Clark Howard show is helping millions of Americans through all types of financial trouble. He simplifies complex issues, allays fears, and offers sound advice to help families thrive during financial crisis. In addition to the program, listeners are kept up to date with news updates from CBS and WPTF News.

8. Open Line

(Monday - Friday 9 p.m. -10 p.m.)

Hosted by long time WPTF staff member Tom Kearney, this show spans a wide gamut of issues including current events, sports and pop culture. Guest experts normally participate in the show and calls are taken from local listeners as well as many others within range of WPTF's 50,000 watt night time signal via a toll-free number.

9. Dr. Joy Browne

(Monday - Friday 10 p.m. – 1 a.m.)

Nationally syndicated talk radio show focused on helping people deal with different life difficulties.

10. Red-Eye Radio

(Tuesday – Saturday, 1 a.m. – 5 a.m.)

Nationally syndicated, Red-Eye Radio is the country's national clearinghouse of information, thoughts and opinions on numerous issues. Katie Award Winning hosts Eric Harley and Gary McNamara engage their millions of listeners and callers with the major issues of the day including current events, legislation, popular culture, family issues, detailed national weather forecasts, safety tips and interviews with trucking industry leaders.

11. WPTF News: WPTF broadcasts world, national and local news at the top and bottom of every hour 24 hours a day. Newscasts also include sports and weather. Breaking news is broadcast immediately by WPTF's staff of six full-time news anchors/reporters plus the resources of CBS News. All major news events, such as a State of the Union speech are carried live. Some examples of local news stories during the 1st quarter are listed at the end of this report, along with date, time and issue.

12. WPTF Traffic Reports: WPTF broadcasts local traffic weekdays from 5 am to 9 am and 3 pm to 7 pm. Reports are aired at :08, :18, :28, :38, :48 and :58. Each report runs from a full minute in length and are produced locally within WPTF's studios by the Triangle Traffic Network

In addition to the weekday programs, WPTF airs numerous weekend programs in the public interest:

13. North Carolina's Morning News – Saturday (Saturdays, 7:00 am – 8:00 am)

A locally-produced morning "news wheel," hosted by Dave Richmond focused on world, national and local news, plus weather and interview segments throughout the show. The bulk of this program is news, weather, traffic and other information to help listeners get their Saturday started. All interviews are between one-minute thirty seconds and three-minutes in length.

14. Weekend Gardner:

(Saturdays, 8:00 am -11:00 am)

A locally-produced talk show that has experts fielding listener's calls about plants and gardening.

15. Dining Out with Greg Cox:

(Saturdays, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm)

A locally produced restaurant review program featuring News and Observer food critic Greg Cox and hosted by Dave Richmond. Greg gives listeners the inside scoop on eateries all over the Triangle covering all food categories, new restaurants and secret places to eat.

16. Joe Wade Formicola:

(Saturdays, 1:00pm - 4:00pm)

Locally produced call In, Topical News and debate on anything from Entertainment to the latest in Politics. Joe Wade offers up whatever is on his or his listener's minds with little to no holding back.

17. Triangle Trader

(Sundays, 12:00 noon - 3:00 p.m.)

The host takes calls from listeners, who are allowed to list items for sale on air.

18. Religious Programming:

(Sundays, 9 a.m. - 12 noon)

WPTF broadcasts live the morning worship services of Edenton Street United Methodist Church and White Memorial Presbyterian Church on alternate Sundays.

19. Money Matters

(Sundays, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.)

The hosts are Doug and Linda Lewis, certified financial planners, who answer questions about the economy, and personal finance. They deal with issues of 401K and other employer retirement plans, IRAs, Roth IRA's, etc. They discuss the markets, national, regional, and local financial news and the impact a story may have on the economy.

20. 60 Minutes

(Sundays, 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.)

This nationally known television news show highlights news maker interviews and investigative reports along with celebrity guest interviews and commentary. 60 Minutes is presented live to listeners even when the television version is delayed.

21. NASCAR and NASCAR Live

(Schedule varies)

Sprint Cup NASCAR races from the Motor Racing Network and the Performance Racing Network are heard on selected Saturdays and Sundays and each Tuesday evening at 7 pm NASCAR fans hear the latest news on upcoming races and events in the world of racing on NASCAR live from the Motor Racing Network.

**ISSUES OF CONCERN TO RALEIGH-DURHAM
ADDRESSED IN RESPONSIVE PROGRAMMING**

CODE ISSUE

AC	Arts & Culture	HSM	Health, Safety and Medical Affairs
CD	Crime/Drugs	HO	Housing
CR	Civil Rights & Activism	IA	International Affairs
EC	Economy/Employment	NS	National Security
ED	Education	PA	Political Affairs
EH	Environment/Health	RE	Religion
GA	Government Affairs	SP	Sports/Games/Races
GR	Growth/Transportation/Roads		

WPTF news segments and interviews air as one-minute-thirty second to three-minute packages that air at various times during the day, within WPTF news hours.

AC-Arts & Culture

JANUARY 1 – THE NORTH CAROLINA MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCES CELEBRATED ITS ONE MILLIONTH VISITOR SINCE IT OPENED ITS NEW WING. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TALKED TO MARK JOHNSON FROM THE MUSEUM ABOUT MONDAY'S SPECIAL VISITOR. AC

JANUARY 1 – RALEIGH AND THE WORLD WELCOMED IN 2013 WITH OVERNIGHT CELEBRATIONS. NEARLY 100-THOUSAND PEOPLE FILLED THE STREETS OF DOWNTOWN RALEIGH FOR "FIRST NIGHT" AS WE HEAR IN THIS REPORT FROM AROUND THE WORLD AND DOWN THE STREET. AC

JANUARY 1 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW--LISTENER PARTICIPATION--NEW YEARS TRADITIONS AND SUPERSTITIONS-AC

JANUARY 1 – NEARLY 100-THOUSAND PEOPLE FILLED THE STREETS OF DOWNTOWN RALEIGH FOR "FIRST NIGHT." BRIAN FREEMAN AND RICK MARTINEZ TALKED ABOUT THE BENEFITS GAINED IN EXPOSING THAT MANY PEOPLE TO ALL THAT DOWNTOWN RALEIGH OFFERS. AC

JANUARY 2 – NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS MAY HAVE STARTED YESTERDAY, BUT YOU CAN PUT IT OFF FOR ONE MORE DAY. AND IF YOU'VE GOT SOME IDEAS FOR A NEW PROJECT TAKE THE INITIATION AND START IT NOW! HERE'S KERRI DAVIS WITH TODAY'S HOLIDAYS. AC

JANUARY 2 – THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCES IN RALEIGH IS LOOKING AHEAD TO 2013, AFTER WELCOMING ITS ONE MILLIONTH VISITOR ON NEW YEAR'S EVE, AND SAYING GOODBYE TO OUTGOING DIRECTOR BETSY BENNETT. SPOKESMAN MARK JOHNSON TALKED TO WPTF'S ABOUT THE FUTURE. AC

JANUARY 2 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW--DR. EDWARD FUNKHOUSER,NCSU COMMUNICATIONS PROFESSOR-NECROLOGY OF WELL KNOWN PEOPLE FROM 2012-AC

JANUARY 4 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW--LISTENER PARTICIPATION--MUSIC TRIVIA,ESPECIALLY ELVIS PRESLEY AND PATTI PAGE-AC

JANUARY 4 – IT'S JEAPORDY ALL DAY! ...SPAGHETTI FOR ONE, TWO, FOUR OR MORE!... AND YOU'RE GETTING SLEEPY, VERY SLEEPY... HERE'S KERRI DAVIS WITH A LOOK AT TODAY'S HOLIDAYS. AC

JANUARY 4 – WHAT'S NEW AT THE MOVIES? BRIAN FREEMAN GETS THE LATEST ON WEEKEND MOVIE OPENINGS FROM KEVIN CARR FROM FATGUYSATTHEMOVIES.COM. AC

JANUARY 7 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW--OPEN PHONES-ELVIS STORIES ON THE DAY BEFORE HIS BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY - AC

JANUARY 8 – IF YOU VISITED THE NORTH CAROLINA ZOO IN ASHEBORO LAST YEAR, YOU WERE NOT ALONE -- ATTENDANCE WAS HIGHEST IS HAS BEEN IN A DECADE AND A HALF.. BRUCE FERRELL FOUND OUT MORE FROM SPOKESMAN ROD HACKNEY. AC

JANUARY 8 – DO YOU HAVE THE KNACK TO ENTERTAIN? HAS ANYONE EVER TOLD YOU THAT YOU HAVE A VOICE LIKE VELVET? MAYBE YOU COULD BE A VOICE ACTOR. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH VOICE ACTOR JIM MESKIMEN (PRONOUNCED JUST LIKE IT LOOKS) ABOUT HIS CAREER, AND HOW HE BROKE IN TO SHOW BUSINESS. AC

JANUARY 9 – EACH AND EVERY SATURDAY MORNING (AT 11:00 AM) ON NEWS RADIO 680 WPTF, NEWS & OBSERVER FOOD CRITIC GREG COX REVIEWS RESTAURANTS IN AND AROUND THE TRIANGLE. ON LAST WEEK'S SHOW, GREG PRAISED THE FIRE PIT, THE UNCONVENTIONAL BARBEQUE PLACE. AC

JANUARY 9 – JEKYLL AND HYDE OPENED AT DPAC LAST EVENING AS IT CONTINUES IT'S ROAD TOUR ACROSS THE COUNTRY. BRIAN FREEMAN HAD A CHANCE TO HEAR MORE ABOUT THE SHOW FROM TEAL WICKES, WHO PLAYS JEKYLL'S FIANCÉE IN THE SHOW. AC

JANUARY 9 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW--JOE NEWBERRY--HISTORY AND ACTIVITIES OF NORTH CAROLINA SYMPHONY - AC

JANUARY 10 – THE WORLD OF ENTERTAINMENT IS CONSTANTLY CHANGING AND NO ONE KNOWS BETTER THE COMPANIES THAT PRODUCE SHOWS. THIS YEAR THE "BIG 4" AREN'T THAT ANYMORE AND THE REAL BEGINNING OF TV COULD START IN THE FALL. TV CRITIC ED BARK OF UNCLE BARKIES DOT COM CHATTED WITH DEMETRI RAVANOS ABOUT THE EVOLUTION OF TV TO A SORT OF "SECOND DEBUT" SEASON. AC

JANUARY 10 – THE 2013 OSCAR NOMINATIONS WERE ANNOUNCED IN HOLLYWOOD THIS MORNING. BRIAN FREEMAN HAS A LOOK AT THE MOVIES WHICH WILL VIE FOR THE TOP SPOT AT THIS YEAR FEBRUARY 24TH OSCAR SHOW. AC

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JANUARY 11 – IF YOUR PLANS TAKE YOU TO EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA -- THERE'S SOME INTERESTING THINGS TO DO AS WE FIND OUT IN THIS FRIDAYS WITH FAYE SEGMENT -- AS BRUCE FERRELL TALKS WITH FAYE MITCHELL FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL RESOURCES. AC

JANUARY 11 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW--STEPHEN KEARNEY AS GUEST, HOMAGE AND TRIVIA ON "THE SIMPSONS"-24 YEARS ON TV – AC

JANUARY 14 – FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MORE THAN TWO DECADES, A NEW DIRECTOR IS IN PLACE AT THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCES IN RALEIGH. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO INTRODUCES US TO DR. EMLYN KOSTER. AC

JANUARY 14 – AGING ANIMALS CONTINUE TO SHOW UP AT NORTH CAROLINA ANIMAL SHELTERS, OFTEN GIVEN UP BY OWNERS WHO DON'T WANT TO OR AREN'T ABLE TO CARE FOR THEM. SHELTERS LIKE SECOND CHANCE PET ADOPTIONS IN RALEIGH ARE STRUGGLING TO FIND HOMES FOR THEM. STEPHANIE CARSON REPORTS. AC

JANUARY 15 – THE NORTH CAROLINA FILM OFFICE WILL TRAVEL TO UTAH THIS WEEK, FOR THE SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL, IN AN EFFORT TO BRING MORE FILM AND TELEVISION PRODUCTIONS TO THE TAR HEEL STATE. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE TO AARON SYRETT, DIRECTOR OF THE STATE FILM OFFICE -- AND NORTH CAROLINA'S HOLLYWOOD AMBASSADOR -- TO FIND OUT THE CHALLENGES IN SELLING NORTH CAROLINA AS A FILMING LOCATION. AC

JANUARY 16 – COMEDIAN TAMMY PESCATELLI HAS TRAVELED THE WORLD, ENTERTAINING THE TROOPS -- SHE'S A WINNER OF COMEDY CENTRAL'S STANDUP SHOWDOWN --- AND HAD HER OWN REALITY SHOW, AND SHE'S APPEARING THIS FRIDAY (JAN.18TH) AT THE HOLLY SPRINGS CULTURAL CENTER. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE TO THE WOMAN WHO'S BEEN LABELED AS ONE OF THE "CLEAN COMICS." AC

JANUARY 18 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW -TRIVIA NIGHT -MUSIC TRIVIA WITH LISTENER PARTICIPATION - AC

JANUARY 21 – DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JUNIOR'S BIRTHDAY IS CELEBRATED TODAY, BUT HIS ACTUAL BIRTH DATE IS JANUARY 15TH. REVEREND WILLIAM BARBER, PRESIDENT OF THE NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER OF THE NAACP, REFLECTED ON DR. KING'S LEGACY AND THE ISSUES HE FOUGHT FOR, THAT ARE STILL RELEVANT TODAY. AC

JANUARY 25 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW--STEPHEN KEARNEY--ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS-AC

JANUARY 28 – HOW'S THIS FOR IRONY... A NEW YORK POST REPORTER IS A NEW YORK TIMES BEST-SELLING AUTHOR. SPONSORED BY THE DUKE UNIVERSITY DEPT. OF PSYCHIATRY AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES, AUTHOR SUSANNAH CAHALAN -- ON FRIDAY -- READ FROM HER NEW BOOK, BRAIN ON FIRE: MY MONTH OF MADNESS AT THE REGULATOR BOOKSHOP IN DURHAM. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE TO CALLAHAN ABOUT HER EXPERIENCES THAT LED TO HER WRITING THE BOOK. AC

JANUARY 28 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-DOUG MATTOX, MATTOX COINS AND STAMPS--LINCOLN COINS, STAMPS AND AUTOGRAPHS--COINS ,STAMPS IN GENERAL- AC

JANUARY 29 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-BELLE LONG,CURATOR,JOEL LANE HOUSE MUSEUM--JOEL LANE AND THE EARLY HISTORY OF RALEIGH- AC

JANUARY 29 – THE RHYTHMS AND ARRANGEMENTS OF THE CLASSIC BIG BAND ERA COMES TO THE PROGRESS ENERGY CENTER TOMORROW AND BRIAN FREEMAN HAD A CHANCE TO SPEAK TO THE PRODUCER AND MUSIC DIRECTOR OF "IN THE MOOD." AC

JANUARY 30 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-J S FLETCHER AND KATHY NEWBERN, OF YOUR NOVEL .COM ON PERSONALIZED NOVELS FOR VALENTINE GIFT--ALSO JEROME DAVIS OF BURNING COAL THEATRE ON UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS- AC

FEBRUARY 1 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW-LISTENER PARTICIPATION-REMEMBRANCE AND MEDITATION ON BUDDY HOLLY AND "THE DAY THE MUSIC DIED"- AC

FEBRUARY 4 – IT'S FEBRUARY 4TH, AND ALL THIS MONTH WE'RE BRINGING YOU STORIES OF NORTH CAROLINA'S BLACK HISTORY. GAYLE HURD TELLS US THIS NOW HISTORIC LANDMARK PROVIDED THE ONLY MEDICAL TRAINING AVAILABLE FOR BLACKS IN RALEIGH IN THE 1800'S, AND COULD BE THOUGHT OF AS THE PRE-CURSOR TO PRESIDENT OBAMA'S AFFORDABLE CARE ACT. AC

FEBRUARY 4 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW--DR. DAVID ZONDERMAN--ON HISTORY WEEKEND AT NCSU,THE CIVIL WAR AND AMERICAN LABOR HISTORY- AC

FEBRUARY 5 – A CHARLOTTE MAN WHO MADE A DORITOS COMMERCIAL ON A SHOESTRING BUDGET IS THE WINNER OF A NATIONAL COMPETITION. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TALKED TO MARK FRYBURGER ABOUT COMPETING WITH HEAVY-HITTING AD CAMPAIGNS ON SUPER SUNDAY. AC

FEBRUARY 5 – FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH, AND ALL THIS MONTH WE'RE BRINGING YOU STORIES FROM NORTH CAROLINA'S BLACK HISTORY. RON PENNY TELLS US ABOUT THOMAS DAY, A FAMOUS CABINET MAKER WHO FOREVER CHANGED NORTH CAROLINA'S WOODWORKING INDUSTRY. AC

FEBRUARY 6 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW--JASON MCCOON, TORY HILL AUCTIONS--THE MARKETS FOR ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES- AC

FEBRUARY 8 – IT'S FRIDAY --- AND YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT A TRIP TO THE COAST -- FAYE MITCHELL WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL RESOURCES HAS SOME IDEAS IN THIS "FRIDAYS WITH FAYE" SEGMENT WITH BRUCE FERRELL. AC

FEBRUARY 8 – OPENING THIS WEEKEND AT MOVIE AREA MOVIE THEATRES...A COMEDY, IDENTITY THIEF AND SOMETHING FOR CRIME AND DRAMA LOVERS..SIDE EFFECTS. BRIAN FREEMAN GETS THE SCOOP ON WHAT YOU'LL SEE FROM KEVIN CARR FROM FATGUYSATTHEMOVIES.COM. AC

FEBRUARY 11 –TOM KEARNEY SHOW--DR. GERAULD PROKOPOWICZ, PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, ECU--ON ABRAHAM LINCOLN,THE CIVIL WAR, AND THE MOVIE "LINCOLN"--AC

FEBRUARY 13 –TOM KEARNEY SHOW--DR. WILLIAM KIMLER PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, NCSU--ON CHARLES DARWIN AND HIS LEGACY--AC

FEBRUARY 14 –TOM KEARNEY SHOW--PAM BECK, GARDENING WRITER--ON FLOWERS AND PLANTS AND SYMBOLISM FOR VALENTINES DAY--AC

FEBRUARY 14 – IT'S A BIG WEEKEND FOR CAR LOVERS WHO WILL BE FLOCKING TO THE STATE FAIRGROUNDS FOR THE 2013 NORTH CAROLINA INTERNATIONAL AUTO EXPO. JOHN MCGRAW GAVE BRIAN FREEMAN A PREVIEW. AC

FEBRUARY 14 – WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BE A SUCCESSFUL MUSICIAN? RALEIGH AUTHOR DAVE ROSE FOUND OUT FROM YEARS OF EXPERIENCE COMING FROM A RELATIVE. ROSE GAVE BRIAN FREEMAN DETAILS OF WHAT HE'S LEARNED AND WROTE ABOUT IN HIS NEW BOOK..."EVERYTHING I KNOW ABOUT THE MUSIC INDUSTRY I LEARNED FROM MY COUSIN RICK." AC

FEBRUARY 15 – WITH THE WEEKEND APPROACHING THERE ARE SEVERAL MOVIE OPENINGS THAT YOU MAY WISH TO CATCH. KEVIN CARR FROM FATGUYSATTHEMOVIES.COM GAVE BRIAN FREEMAN HIS "READ" ON WHAT'S WORTH YOUR DOLLARS. AC

FEBRUARY 15 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW--MUSIC TRIVIA--LISTENER PARTICIPATION--AC

FEBRUARY 18 – COUNTRY MUSIC SINGER MINDY MCGREADY IS DEAD AT 37 HAVING COMMITTED SUICIDE. WHAT DID HER MUSIC MEAN TO HER INDUSTRY AND WHAT TROUBLES MAY HAVE BROUGHT HER TO TAKE THIS ACTION? MIKE WHELESS FROM 94.7 WQDR SPOKE WITH BRIAN FREEMAN. AC

FEBRUARY 19 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW--DR STEPHEN REYNOLDS, NCSU PHYSICS PROFESSOR ON METEORITES, ASTEROIDS, SUPERNOVA AND THE "MUSIC OF THE SPHERES"-AC

FEBRUARY 20 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW-DR. LARRY TISE-ECU HISTORY PROFESSOR--ON THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TUSCARORA WAR IN EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA-AC

FEBRUARY 20 – SOME MAJOR COMPANIES TWITTER ACCOUNTS WERE HACKED THIS WEEK. SO, HOW DO YOU PROTECT YOU ACCOUNT AND OTHER PASSWORD PROTECTED SITES YOU VISIT? BRIAN FREEMAN GOT DETAILS FROM OUR TREND AND TECH GURU GREGG STEBBEN. AC

FEBRUARY 21 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW-TONY MAUPIN OF MAUPIN TRAVEL ON VACATIONS AND TRAVEL-AC

FEBRUARY 22 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW-STEPHEN KEARNEY IS GUEST WITH OSCA TRIVIA AND "PICKS" FOR THIS YEAR'S AWARDS-AC

FEBRUARY 22 – ACTION AND HORROR ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN THE MOVIES THIS WEEKEND. KEVIN CARR FROM FATGUYSATTHEMOVIES.COM ALSO GAVE BRIAN FREEMAN HIS PICKS FOR BEST MOVIE, ACTOR AND ACTRESS. AC

FEBRUARY 25 – THE 85TH ACADEMY AWARDS CEREMONY WAS A NIGHT OF TEARS OF JOY, HUMBLE BLESSINGS, AND SPREADING THE THANKS. THERE WERE SOME SURPRISES AND SOME CLEAR FAVORITES. WPTF'S KERRI DAVIS HIGHLIGHTS THE BIG AWARDS AND THE NAMES THAT RECEIVED THEM. AC

FEBRUARY 25 -TOM KEARNEY SHOW--BOB CHANDLER OF MACVANTAGE--
QUESTIONS/ANSWERS ABOUT APPLE COMPUTERS AND APPLE PRODUCTS - AC

FEBRUARY 26 – SOCIAL MEDIA CONTINUES TO BECOME A BIGGER PART OF OUR EVERYDAY LIVES, AND ADVERTISERS HAVE TAKEN NOTICE. BUT, THE TWITTER'S AND FACEBOOK'S OF THE WORLD AREN'T JUST FOR MAJOR ADVERTISERS, THEY ARE ALSO INSTRUMENTAL FOR SMALL BUSINESSES. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH STEVE STRAUSS, A SMALL BUSINESS EXPERT AND USA TODAY CONTRIBUTOR, TO FIND OUT WHY ALL SMALL

BUSINESSES SHOULD USE SOCIAL MEDIA AND HOW IT HAS REPLACED TRADITIONAL ADVERTISING. AC

FEBRUARY 27 – SHE'S HOPING TO BE CROWNED THE NEXT MISS NORTH CAROLINA LATER THIS YEAR -- BUT, FOR NOW JOHNA ALEXANDRIA EDMONDS IS THE REIGNING MISS JOHNSTON COUNTY. THE NC STATE ACCOUNTING GRADUATE -- WHO IS NOW PERUSING A MASTERS IN ACCOUNTING AT STATE -- TALKED WITH BRUCE FERRELL ABOUT HER GOALS. AC

FEBRUARY 27 -TOM KEARNEY SHOW--KEN PLEASANT AND RUSS GARWOOD OF CAPITAL COMICS ON COMICS AND THE MOVIES - AC

FEBRUARY 28 – IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR A GOOD, INVESTIGATIVE SHOW TO FOLLOW, YOU WILL WANT TO GIVE "DARK MINDS" A TRY. SEASON TWO OF THE INVESTIGATION DISCOVERY SERIES IS UPON US AND WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH THE SHOW'S M. WILLIAM PHELPS, AND FOUND OUT THE SHOCKING REASON WHY HE GOT INVOLVED IN TRYING TO SOLVE THESE CRIMES. AC

MARCH 1 – A FAIRLY LARGE NUMBER OF MOVIES ARE OPENING THIS WEEKEND. KEVIN CARR FROM FATGUYSATTHEMOVIES.COM GAVE BRIAN FREEMAN HIS "READ" ON WHAT'S WORTH YOUR DOLLARS AT LOCAL THEATRES. AC

MARCH 1 – IF YOU PLANNING TO STAY AROUND THE RALEIGH AREA THIS WEEKEND, THERE ARE SOME ARTS AND CULTURE ACTIVITIES YOU MIGHT WANT TO CHECK OUT -- BRUCE FERRELL GETS MORE FROM FAYE MITCHELL FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL RESOURCES IN OUR FRIDAYS WITH FAYE SEGMENT. AC

MARCH 1-TOM KEARNEY SHOW--LISTENER PARTICIPATION-MUSIC TRIVIA NIGHT - AC

MARCH 4 – PRECIPITATION IS COMING OUR WAY ON TUESDAY INTO WEDNESDAY...WILL IS BE FROZEN? BRIAN FREEMAN GOT THE "WEEK AHEAD" FORECAST FROM ACCUWEATHER'S DAN PADINOWSKI. AC

MARCH 4 – TWO POLLS ARE OUT THAT SHOW THE PUBLIC'S MAIN SOURCE OF NEWS IS NOT THE MAJOR NETWORK'S EVENING NEWS AND ALSO HOW THE PUBLIC FEELS ABOUT ANY TAX INCREASES. THE WASHINGTON EXAMINER'S PAUL BEDARD GAVE BRIAN FREEMAN AND SURPRISING POLL RESULTS. AC

MARCH 4 – THE 2013-14 SUNTRUST BROADWAY SERIES AT THE DURHAM PERFORMING ARTS CENTER HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED. IN OUR CONTINUING BROADWAY SERIES INTERVIEWS, BRIAN FREEMAN SPOKE TO NICK SCAN-DAY-LEE-US THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE NEDERLANDER ORGANIZATION WHICH IS ONE OF THE LARGEST OWNERS OF LEGITIMATE THEATRES IN THE WORLD. AC

MARCH 5 – WHICH MUSEUM OR HISTORIC SITE IS THE MOST VISITED IN THE STATE ? YOU MIGHT BE SURPRISED TO LEARN THAT'S ITS THE NORTH CAROLINA MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCES IN RALEIGH --- THE MUSEUM TOPPED THE LIST ACCORDING TO A LIST COMPILED BY CAROLINA PUBLISHING ASSOCIATES. BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH THE MUSEUM'S MARK JOHNSON. AC

MARCH 5 – FROM 6 TO 9 MARCH 12TH "LINKEDIN" MEMBERS IN THE TRIANGLE WILL TAKE PART IN A SPECIAL EVENT IN CARY TO HIGHLIGHT THE NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION 4PHILIP.ORG. BRIAN FREEMAN LEARNED MORE ABOUT THE EVENT FROM MARCIE TRIVETTE, MISS RALEIGH U.S.A. AC

MARCH 6 – THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION SAID CONSUMERS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO UNLOCK SMARTPHONES AND TABLET COMPUTERS WITHOUT RISKING CRIMINAL PENALTIES,

SIDING WITH CRITICS OF A RULING FROM THE U.S. LIBRARY OF CONGRESS. MORE THAN 114,000 PEOPLE ENDORSED AN INTERNET PETITION TO RESCIND A DECISION BY THE LIBRARY THAT TOOK EFFECT IN JANUARY. TREND AND TECH GURU GREGG STEBBEN CHATS WITH BRIAN FREEMAN ABOUT UNLOCKING A CELLPHONE MEANS AND HOW IT WORKS. AC

MARCH 6 – THE 2013-14 SUNTRUST BROADWAY SERIES AT THE DURHAM PERFORMING ARTS CENTER HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED. IN OUR CONTINUING BROADWAY SERIES INTERVIEWS, BRIAN FREEMAN SPOKE WITH RANDY BUCK, THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF TROIKA (TROY-KA) WHICH PRODUCES BROADWAY EVENTS IN CITIES ACROSS THE UNITED STATES. AC

MARCH 7 – U.S. SENATOR KAY HAGAN, RECEIVED THE NAVY DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD FROM SECRETARY OF THE NAVY, RAY MABUS. THE DPSA IS THE HIGHEST HONOR FOR A NON-NAVY INDIVIDUAL AND IS AWARDED BASED ON CONTRIBUTIONS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS THAT HAVE HAD IMPACT ON THE NAVY AND BEYOND. HERE'S AN EXCERPT OF THE CEREMONY IN WHICH SHE RECEIVED THIS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD. AC

MARCH 7 – AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY CLYDE COOPER'S BAR B QUE IS HOLDING AN EVENT THIS SATURDAY TO BENEFIT THE SPCA. BRIAN FREEMAN GETS DETAILS OF THE EVENT WITH DEBBIE HOLT. AC

MARCH 8 – IT'S TIME TO MAKE PLANS FOR THE WEEKEND, AND JOSH ZACH MET UP WITH FAYE MITCHELL AT THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL RESOURCES TO FIND OUT ABOUT SOME ACTIVITIES TAKING PLACE AROUND THE STATE THIS WEEKEND. AC

MARCH 8 – THE 2013-14 SUNTRUST BROADWAY SERIES AT THE DURHAM PERFORMING ARTS CENTER HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED. IN OUR CONTINUING BROADWAY SERIES INTERVIEWS, BRIAN FREEMAN SPOKE WITH ELIZABETH DAVIS AND PAUL WHITTY, TWO OF THE BROADWAY PERFORMERS IN THE DELIGHTFUL MUSICAL ONCE. AC

MARCH 8 – "OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL" OPENS AT THEATRES THIS WEEKEND. IS IT MAGICAL? KEVIN CARR FROM FATGUYSATTHEMOVIES.COM GAVE BRIAN FREEMAN THE ANSWER. AC

MARCH 8 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW- STEPHEN KEARNEY ON WOMEN ON TV-TRIVIA NIGHT-AC

MARCH 12 – MANY OF US LIKE TO THINK ABOUT THE FUTURE AND WHAT KINDS OF GADGETS AND TECHNOLOGY MIGHT EXIST. WHEN WE LOOK AT WHAT SOME OF THE EXPERTS ARE SAYING, HOW DO THEY SEE OUR FUTURE WORLD BEING DIFFERENT? N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN ANSWERS. AC

MARCH 12 – THE V FOUNDATION CELEBRATES IT'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY THIS MONTH AND IT IS ALSO THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF JIM VALVANNO'S NC STATE BASKETBALL TEAM'S NCAA TITLE. BRIAN FREEMAN LOOKED BACK NOT ONLY THE PAST, BUT ALSO THE FUTURE OF THE V FOUNDATION WITH CEO SUSAN BRAUN. AC

MARCH 13 – THROUGHOUT MARCH, WPTF IS OBSERVING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH WITH A LOOK BACK AT THE HISTORIC EVENTS THAT CENTERED ON WOMEN IN NORTH CAROLINA. KERRI DAVIS TELLS US ABOUT A DOLLEY MADISON, A BORN TAR HEEL. AC

MARCH 13 – YOU PROBABLY ARE NOT AWARE THAT TODAY, MARCH 13TH IS "NO MORE DAY" TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT. BRIAN FREEMAN LEARNED MORE FROM SAMANTHA YA-CALL KREMSKI. AC

MARCH 15 – RACIAL SLURS ARE A SOCIAL AND MORAL TABOO, AND RESEARCH FINDS THAT NOT ONLY DO WE HEAR THEM AT WORK, THE DATA ALSO SHOWS THAT WHITE MEN MAY BE LEAST LIKELY TO SPEAK OUT AGAINST THOSE WHO USE SLURS. IN PART III OF OUR IN-DEPTH

LOOK AT THE DATA, WPTF'S JOSH ZACH ASKS ASHLEIGH ROSETTE AT DUKE'S FUQUA SCHOOL OF BUSINESS -- CO-AUTHOR OF A NEW PAPER ON THE SUBJECT -- WHAT CAN BE DONE TO FOCUS NOT ONLY ON THOSE MAKING THE SLURS, BUT ON THOSE WHO OBSERVE THEM AND REMAIN SILENT. AC

MARCH 15 – "THE INCREDIBLE BURT WONDERSTONE" AND "THE CALL" OPEN AT THEATRES THIS WEEKEND, BUT WILL "OZ" KEEP IT'S MAGIC? KEVIN CARR FROM FATGUYSATTHEMOVIES.COM GAVE BRIAN FREEMAN THE ANSWER. AC

MARCH 18 – IT WAS 10 YEARS AGO TODAY THAT A STING OPERATION IN PENNSYLVANIA RETURNED NORTH CAROLINA'S ORIGINAL COPY OF THE BILL OF RIGHTS TO THE STATE --- AFTER IT WAS PURLOINED DURING GENERAL SHERMAN'S MARCH THROUGH THE SOUTH DURING THE CIVIL WAR. IT WILL SPEND A BRIEF PERIOD ON DISPLAY AT THE STATE CAPITOL TODAY. WPTF'S BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH SARAH KOONTZ THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY. AC

MARCH 20 – LOTS OF PARENTS ARE GETTING CONCERNED THAT THEY MAY NOT BE ABLE TO MONITOR THEIR CHILDREN'S ON-LINE ACTIVITIES AS THEY COULD IN THE PAST. SO...WHAT CAN YOU DO? BRIAN FREEMAN FOUND OUT FROM OUR TREND AND TECH GURU GREGG STEBBEN. AC

MARCH 20 – THE MUSICAL ANYTHING GOES OPENED LAST NIGHT AT DPAC FOR EIGHT GREAT SHOWS AND BRIAN FREEMAN CAUGHT UP WITH FRED APPELGATE WHO STARS IN THE SHOW AND HAS PERFORMED ON STAGE, SCREEN AND TELEVISION. AC

MARCH 21 – LAST YEAR A YOUNG GIRL, ELLA, LOST HER BATTLE WITH CANCER AND THIS WEEKEND A SPECIAL EVENT TAKES PLACE HERE IN THE TRIANGLE THAT ALLOWS YOU TO DO YOUR PART TO HELP OTHERS. BRIAN FREEMAN SPOKE WITH THAT SPECIAL GIRL'S MOTHER, RENAE NEWMILLER. AC

MARCH 21 – IF YOU HAVE EVER HAD TO DEAL WITH A HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION AND THE SOMETIMES ODD RULES THEY PASS...IMAGINE AN ENTIRE TOWN THAT CONTROLS EVERYTHING. WHILE IT'S NOT REAL IT IS THE BASIS FOR COMEDY EACH WEDNESDAY EVENING ON THE TV SHOW SUBURGATORY. BRIAN FREEMAN LOOKED AT THE SHOW AND THE SHOW'S CHARACTERS WITH ALLEN TUDYK (TOO-DIK) WHO PLAYS DR. NOAH WERNER ON THE SHOW. AC

MARCH 21 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW-KEN STEWART-CIVIL ENTHUSIAST AND RE-ENACTOR-ON THE BATTLE OF BENTONVILLE-AC

MARCH 22 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW-STEPHEN KEARNEY IS GUEST-DISCUSSION AND TRIVIA ABOUT ROLE WOMEN IN HISTORY OF TV-AC

MARCH 22 – "OLYMPUS HAS FALLEN, THE CROODS" AND "ADMISSION" OPEN AT THEATRES THIS WEEKEND AFTER TWO WINNING WEEKS FOR "OZ." KEVIN CARR FROM FATGUYSATTHEMOVIES.COM PREVIEWED THIS WEEKEND'S OFFERINGS TO BRIAN FREEMAN. AC

MARCH 25 – NEARLY 2,000 PEOPLE ATTENDED THE 26TH ANNUAL CAROLINA INDIAN CIRCLE POWWOW ON SATURDAY TO HONOR SLAIN UNC SOPHOMORE FAITH HEDGEPEETH. ABC 11'S ALENA ATHENS REPORTS. AC

MARCH 26 – WHAT'S THE LATEST IN ENTERTAINMENT NEWS FROM DPAC? BRIAN FREEMAN FOUND OUT ABOUT DPAC'S UPCOMING SEASON FROM RACHEL GRAGG. AC

MARCH 27 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW-NANCY OLSON OF QUAIL RIDGE BOOKS-NEW READING FOR THE SPRING. AC

MARCH 29 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW-LISTENER PARTICIPATION-FRIDAY NIGHT MUSIC TRIVIA. AC

CD - Crime/Drugs

JANUARY 1 – MEMBERS OF THE WILMINGTON TEN, WHO WERE WRONGFULLY CONVICTED DURING A CIVIL RIGHTS-ERA PROSECUTION, WERE GRANTED PARDONS MONDAY BY OUTGOING GOVERNOR BEV PERDUE. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TALKED ABOUT IT WITH CASH MICHAELS, COORDINATOR FOR THE WILMINGTON TEN PARDONS OF INNOCENCE PROJECT. CD

JANUARY 2 – US BANKING INSTITUTIONS HAVE BEEN ROCKED BY SCANDALS THAT HAVE RESULTED IN THE ADMISSION THAT THEY LAUNDERED BILLIONS IN DRUG PROCEEDS. NOT ONLY BUSINESS AND BANKS CAN BE VICTIMS OF MONEY LAUNDERING, SO CAN YOU. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPEAKS TO FORMER DEA UNDERCOVER AGENT, ROBERT MAZUR, TO GET AN UNDERSTANDING WITH WHAT INVESTORS SHOULD WATCH OUT FOR. CD

JANUARY 3 – AMERICAN INDUSTRY AND PRIVATE SECTOR BUSINESSES ARE TARGETS OF FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES, CRIMINALS, AND INDUSTRY SPIES. IN 2011 ALONE, THE FBI REPORTS 13 BILLION DOLLARS WAS LOST TO ECONOMIC ESPIONAGE ... 2 BILLION IN NORTH CAROLINA. HOME TO SOME OF THE WORLD'S LEADING COMPANIES IN TECHNOLOGY, PHARMACEUTICALS, BANKING AND -- MOST IMPORTANTLY THE DEFENSE INDUSTRY -- NORTH CAROLINA IS IN THE CROSSHAIRS FOR THIS TYPE OF SPY GAME. JOSH ZACH DISCUSSED INDUSTRIAL ESPIONAGE WITH FBI SPECIAL AGENT TIMOTHY STRANAHAN, AND LEARNED WHAT COMPANIES CAN DO TO PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM RISK. CD

JANUARY 9 – LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS BUSTED 460 METH LABS IN NORTH CAROLINA LAST YEAR, UP FROM 344 IN 2011. HERE'S ATTORNEY GENERAL ROY COOPER TALKING ABOUT THE PROBLEM AND THE SOLUTIONS. CD

JANUARY 21 – THE TALKS ON GUN CONTROL AND MENTAL HEALTH CONTINUE EVEN MORE THAN A MONTH AFTER THE SHOOTING AT SANDY HOOK. IN CONTINUATION OF THE DEBATE, DR. BART ROSSIE, POLITICAL PSYCHOLOGIST, TALKS WITH BILL LUMAYE ON CONTROLLING GUN VIOLENCE AND THE ANALYSIS OF SHOOTERS. CD

JANUARY 24 – A NEW LEGISLATIVE BILL COULD ALLOW GUN OWNERS TO KEEP FIREARMS IN THEIR CARS IN THE PARKING LOT AT WORK EVEN IF THEIR EMPLOYERS' GUN POLICIES FORBID IT. PAUL VALONE, PRESIDENT OF GRASS ROOTS, N.C., TALKS WITH BILL LUMAYE ON THE DETAILS OF THESE LAWS AND SUPPORTING THEM. CD

JANUARY 28 – ATTORNEY GENERAL ROY COOPER LAST WEEK CALLED ON THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO GIVE HIM TWO NEW TOOLS, THE ABILITY TO CONVENE GRAND JURIES AND TO MAKING THE OFFENSE OF LYING TO AN S-B-I INVESTIGATOR, A FELONY. HERE ARE A PORTION OF HIS COMMENTS. CD

JANUARY 30 – FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1994, THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT WAS NOT REAUTHORIZED. DESPITE BROAD BIPARTISAN SUPPORT IN THE SENATE LAST YEAR, THE ACT LANGUISHED IN THE HOUSE, LEADING TO LAWMAKERS SCRAMBLING TO PASS THE ACT. SENATOR KAY HAGAN IS A HUGE SUPPORTER OF THE ACT, AND SAYS THIS ACT IS CRITICAL TO THE SAFETY OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN. CD

FEBRUARY 5 – THE DEATH TOLLS RISE AND IT'S BECOME A UNWRITTEN EPIDEMIC... AT LEAST UNTIL NOW. STAR OF THE NEW BOOK, BY JOHN BARE-LICK ENTITLED "KILLER SHOW" AND

SURVIVOR OF THE RHODE ISLAND CLUB FIRE IN 2003, LINDA FISHER, JOINS DOUG KELLETT TO TELL HER ACCOUNT AND MAKE PEOPLE AWARE OF THESE SHOCKING EVENTS. CD

FEBRUARY 5 – MISSOURI STATE SENATE IS CONSIDERING A BILL THAT WOULD REQUIRE ALL FIRST GRADERS IN THE STATE TO TAKE A GUN SAFETY TRAINING COURSE. USING A GRANT PROVIDED BY THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION, IT WOULD PUT A "NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION'S EDDIE EAGLE GUNSAFE PROGRAM" INSTRUCTOR IN EVERY FIRST GRADE CLASSROOM. ROB PINCUS, FIREARMS & PERSONAL DEFENSE EXPERT, TALKS WITH BILL LUMAYE ABOUT THIS PROPOSED BILL AND GIVES HIS REMARKS. CD

FEBRUARY 6 – SENATOR KAY HAGAN IS DOING ALL SHE CAN TO GET THE "VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT" PASSED. LAST YEAR WAS THE FIRST YEAR SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1994 THE ACT WAS NOT REAUTHORIZED. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH SENATOR HAGAN TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS ACT AND WHY ITS SO IMPORTANT. CD

FEBRUARY 12 – LAST MONTH SENATOR DIANNE FEINSTEIN (FINE-STINE) INTRODUCED HER BILL "THE ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN OF 2013" WHICH WOULD BAN 100 SPECIFICALLY NAMED FIREARMS, INCLUDING SEMIAUTOMATIC RIFLES, HANDGUNS AND SHOTGUNS THAT HAVE "MILITARY CHARACTERISTICS." THIS BAN, IF ADOPTED, WOULD BE A PART OF OVER GUN-CONTROL LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD INCLUDE UNIVERSAL BACKGROUND CHECKS. MIKE HAMMOND, WHO SITS ON THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GUN OWNERS OF AMERICA, TELLS BILL LUMAYE WHY HE THINKS THE BILL WILL NOT PASS AND HOW BACKGROUND CHECKS ARE A THREAT TO GUN OWNERS. CD

FEBRUARY 14 – ALL OF US WANT TO LOVE AND BE LOVED. IT'S HUMAN NATURE, AND THERE'S A COMMUNITY OF UNSCRUPULOUS, UNSAVORY AND DOWNRIGHT DESPICABLE PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO'RE USING OUR HEARTS JUST TO GET TO OUR WALLETS. WITH VALENTINES DAY UPON US, WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH NORTH CAROLINA ATTORNEY GENERAL ROY COOPER, WHO WARNS THAT TODAY'S CON ARTISTS ARE USING DATING AND SOCIAL NETWORKING WEBSITES TO PREY ON VICTIMS. CD

FEBRUARY 15 – THE FAMILY OF A NORTH CAROLINA GIRL WHO WAS NEARLY DIED FROM A BEATING ARE WORKING TOWARD TOUGHER PUNISHMENTS IN CHILD ABUSE CASES. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO HAS THE STORY OF KYLA'S LAW. CD

FEBRUARY 19 – A WOMAN CHARGED IN CONNECTION WITH TWO DURHAM "CULT" MURDERS PLEAD GUILTY, MONDAY, IN A DURHAM COURTROOM TO A REDUCED CHARGE. WPTF'S RICK MARTINEZ AND JOSH ZACH DISCUSS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DEAL REACHED IN THE CASE THAT SAW SEVEN CHARGED IN CONNECTION WITH THE MURDERS. CD

FEBRUARY 19 – THE STATE TROOPER WHO WAS SHOT DURING A ROUTINE TRAFFIC STOP IN DURHAM HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS TROOPER MIKE POTTS. RICK MARTINEZ AND BRIAN FREEMAN LOOK AT A NEW DIRECTION THE CASE IS GOING AFTER THE SUSPECTS CAR WAS LOCATED. CD

FEBRUARY 20 – THE SUSPECT WANTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE SHOOTING OF A NORTH CAROLINA HIGHWAY PATROL TROOPER WAS ARRESTED TUESDAY MORNING AFTER A MASSIVE MANHUNT. OFFICIALS FROM SEVERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE TUESDAY AFTERNOON IN DURHAM TO MAKE THE ANNOUNCEMENT. CD

FEBRUARY 20 – THE FBI'S IS WARNING PEOPLE ABOUT A NASTY COMPUTER VIRUS. IN PART THREE OF THIS IN-DEPTH INTERVIEW, WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPEAKS WITH FBI PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST SHELLEY LYNCH ABOUT A NEW CITADEL MALWARE PLATFORM -- NAMED REVETRON -- THAT LOCKS COMPUTERS AND ATTEMPTS TO EXTORT MONEY FROM IT'S VICTIMS. CD

FEBRUARY 21 – CRIMINALS WHO MAKE METHAMPHETAMINE COULD FACE MORE JAIL TIME UNDER LEGISLATION CURRENTLY MAKING IT'S WAY THROUGH THE NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY. STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL ROY COOPER TELLS WPTF'S JOSH ZACH THAT HOUSE BILL 29 WOULD HELP FIGHT A RECENT SURGE IN METH LABS, AND BAN OFFENDERS FROM POSSESSING THE DRUG'S MAIN INGREDIENT. CD

FEBRUARY 21 – WILDLIFE OFFICERS IN NORTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA HAVE CONDUCTED AN UNDERCOVER OPERATION THAT CRACKED DOWN ON POACHERS WHO WERE KILLING BEARS AND OTHER ANIMALS. MORE FROM WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN. CD

MARCH 1 – A DOZEN PEOPLE -- MOSTLY TEENAGERS --FACE CHARGES -- IN CONNECTION WITH A DEADLY ACCIDENT IN JOHNSTON COUNTY EARLIER THIS MONTH... 18 YEAR OLD WILLIAM LEE TIPPETT, OF GARNER DIED IN THE FEBRUARY 16 ACCIDENT ON JOSEPHINE ROAD IN THE CLEVELAND AREA.ALE AGENT IN CHARGE JEFF LASSITER SAYS 1 17 YEAR OLD BRYAN DAVID GILMORE NOW FACES MULTIPLE CHARGES WHILE ELEVEN OTHERS FACE CHARGES RELATED TO UNDERAGE ALCOHOL USE . LASSITER TALKED TO OUR MARLA ROTH. CD

MARCH 1 – NORTH CAROLINA HAS THE 8TH HIGHEST RATE OF SEX TRAFFICKING IN THE COUNTRY, AND LEGISLATORS WANT TOUGHER LAWS TO STOP IT. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO HAS THE DETAILS. CD

MARCH 6 – THE CRIME RATE IN DURHAM IS AT A 23-YEAR LOW, EVEN THOUGH THE POPULATION OF THE BULL CITY HAS DOUBLED DURING THAT TIME SPAN. MAYOR BILL BELL TALKED ABOUT SOME OF THE REASONS FOR THE PROGRESS WITH WPTF'S RICK MARTINEZ. CD

MARCH 6 – A DRAMATIC TWIST IN A RALEIGH MURDER TRIAL. THE VICTIM -- A HOMELESS MAN... PROSECUTORS ARE TRYING TO TRY A GROUP OF TEENS AS ADULTS... ABC 11'S ED CRUMP TELLS US WAKE PROSECUTORS MADE A DEAL WITH ONE OF THE TEENS TO TESTIFY AGAINST HIS CO-DEFENDANTS, AGREEING TO LET HIM PLEAD GUILTY TO SECOND DEGREE MURDER IN ADULT COURT... BUT ON TUESDAY THE TEEN INVOKED HIS FIFTH AMENDMENT RIGHT. CD

MARCH 7 – THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY RECENTLY PURCHASED AMMO AND LIGHT ARMORED VEHICLES, BUT WHY, WHAT ARE THEY PREPARING FOR? MORNING DRIVE HOST DOUG KELLETT TALKS WITH THE AUTHOR OF PIRATES AND CARTELS, LEE BOYLAND, ABOUT WHAT THE POSSIBILITIES COULD BE. CD

MARCH 7 – A DISTURBING REPORT OUT TODAY FROM THE SOUTHER POVERTY LAW CENTER SHOWS AN EXPLOSIVE RISE IN DOMESTIC ANTI-GOVERNMENT MILITIA, OR "PATRIOT," GROUPS ACROSS THESE UNITED STATES. MORE FROM NEWS RADIO 680 WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN. CD

MARCH 7 – ONE THE FAVORITES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON AT DPAC'S SUNTRUST BROADWAY SERIES, MUST BE THE CLASSIC MUSICAL "HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS! BRIAN FREEMAN GETS THE BEHIND THE SCENES STORY FROM THE SHOWS COMPOSER AND THE GUY EVERYONE LOVES TO HATE. CD

MARCH 7 – THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION IS RAISING AWARENESS OF HEALTH FRAUD SCAMS THIS WEEK AS PART OF NATIONAL CONSUMER PROTECTION WEEK. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH GARY COODY, FDA'S NATIONAL HEALTH FRAUD COORDINATOR, TO FIND OUT HOW TO RECOGNIZE THESE COSTLY AND POTENTIALLY DEADLY SCAMS. CD

MARCH 12 – NORTH CAROLINA ATTORNEY GENERAL ROY COOPER JOINED 47 OTHER ATTORNEY'S GENERAL, MONDAY, INS CALLING ON THE FDA TO MAKE GENERIC PAIN PILLS

SAFER. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH A-G COOPER, WHO SAYS GENERIC VERSIONS OF POPULAR PAIN RELIEVERS MUST BE MADE HARDER TO ABUSE. CD

MARCH 12 – THE ACLU OF NORTH CAROLINA -- AND 22 OTHER ACLU STATE AFFILIATES -- SENT REQUESTS TO LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, INQUIRING TO WHAT EXTENT LOCAL POLICE USE MILITARY TECHNOLOGY, TRADITIONALLY RESERVED FOR USE OVERSEAS. IRONICALLY, THE REQUEST WAS ISSUED ON THE SAME DAY THAT THE MONROE POLICE DEPT. (IN UNION COUNTY, NC) ANNOUNCED IT WAS CONSIDERING THE PURCHASE OF A DRONE AIRCRAFT. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH CAUGHT UP WITH ACLU-NORTH CAROLINA SPOKESMAN, MIKE MENO, TO FIND OUT WHAT THE CIVIL LIBERTIES WATCHDOG AIMS TO LEARN FROM THEIR PROBE. CD

MARCH 13 – RALEIGH'S PULLEN PARK IS NORMALLY A CENTER OF FAMILY FUN AND GOOD TIME, BUT LAST NIGHT IT WAS IN THE CENTER OF DANGER AND INVESTIGATION. TWO MEN ROUGHED UP SOME VISITORS TO THE PARK AND STOLE THEIR CAR. ABC 11'S ELAINA ATHANS TELLS US THE TWO ROBBERS HAD GUN AND THERE WAS SOME GUNFIRE. CD

MARCH 13 – IN HENDERSON, A WOMAN IS NOT HAPPY WITH THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AFTER SHE SAYS HER CALL FOR HELP DID NOT GET IMMEDIATE ATTENTION. ABC 11'S KELLI O'HARA HAS THE STORY. CD

MARCH 19 – GOV. PAT MCCRORY SAYS HE'S GOT A PROPOSAL FOR MAKING NORTH CAROLINA'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS SAFER AND WILL HOLD A NEWS CONFERENCE THIS MORNING AT A WAKE COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL WITH SOME OF HIS CABINET SECRETARIES TO DISCUSS HIS PLANS. BRIAN FREEMAN AND RICK MARTINEZ LOOK AT WHAT MIGHT BE PROPOSED AND WHY. CD

MARCH 20 – FROM COUNTERFEITERS TO CONSTRUCTION FRAUD, CARY POLICE HAVE HAD A PRODUCTIVE MONTH CATCHING CROOKS. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH CAPTAIN DON HAMILTON OF THE CARY POLICE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION TO GET AN UPDATE ON THE MARCH MADNESS IN THE TOWN, WHERE INVESTIGATORS HAVE HAD THEIR HANDS FULL ... FILLING UP THEIR JAILS. CD

MARCH 22 – THE NC STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS HAS CONFIRMED THEIR INTENT TO PROSECUTE FIVE PEOPLE ON SUSPICION THAT THEY VOTED IN BOTH FLORIDA AND NC DURING THE NOVEMBER 2012 ELECTION. JAY DELANCY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE VOTER INTEGRITY PROJECT NORTH CAROLINA, SPEAKS TO BILL LUMAYE ABOUT HOW THE DUAL VOTERS WERE NABBED IN NORTH CAROLINA AND FLORIDA. CD

MARCH 26 – IF YOU DRIVE, THERE'S A GROWING CHANCE YOU'RE BEING WATCHED BY HIGH-TECH CAMERAS SCANNING LICENSE PLATES. POLICE SAY THIS IS MAKING THE STREETS SAFER. CBS' JOHN BLACKSTONE SHOWS US WHY THIS IS ALSO LEADING TO A NEW FIGHT OVER BIG BROTHER. CD

MARCH 27 – THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL ANNOUNCED TUESDAY THAT IT'S SUSPENDING THE HONOR COURT CASE AGAINST A STUDENT WHO FACES POSSIBLE EXPULSION AFTER SAYING PUBLICLY THAT SHE'S A RAPE VICTIM. THE ANNOUNCEMENT COMES AFTER THE GIRL'S ATTORNEY SENT A LETTER TO UNC CHANCELLOR HOLDEN THORPE, ADVISING HIM AND THE UNIVERSITY, THAT SHE'S FILED A FEDERAL COMPLAINT AGAINST THE SCHOOL. ABC 11'S TAMRA GIBBS REPORTS. CD

MARCH 27 – DRONES OVER U.S. AIRSPACE HAVE RECENTLY BECOME A HOT BUTTON TOPIC AMONG POLITICIANS, LAW ENFORCEMENT AND WATCHDOG GROUPS. IN PART-TWO OF AN IN-DEPTH LOOK, WPTF'S JOSH ZACH EXAMINES THE ISSUE THAT'S -- SO FAR -- TRIGGERED A FILIBUSTER ON CAPITOL HILL, HAS LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT SHOPPING FOR HANGAR SPACE, AND ALSO IGNITED THE INTEREST OF THE ACLU. CD

CR- Civil Rights

JANUARY 15 – DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JUNIOR'S BIRTHDAY WILL BE CELEBRATED NEXT MONDAY, BUT HIS ACTUAL BIRTH DATE IS JANUARY 15TH. REVEREND WILLIAM BARBER, PRESIDENT OF THE NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER OF THE NAACP, REFLECTED ON DR. KING'S LEGACY AND THE ISSUES HE FOUGHT FOR, THAT ARE STILL RELEVANT TODAY. CR

FEBRUARY 5 – FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH, AND ALL THIS MONTH WE'RE BRINGING YOU STORIES FROM NORTH CAROLINA'S BLACK HISTORY. RON PENNY TELLS US ABOUT THOMAS DAY, A FAMOUS CABINET MAKER WHO FOREVER CHANGED NORTH CAROLINA'S WOODWORKING INDUSTRY. CR

FEBRUARY 8 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW--STEPHEN KEARNEY IS GUEST--HOMAGE TO BLACK HISTORY MONTH--HISTORY OF AFRICAN AMERICANS ON AMERICAN TELEVISION- CR

MARCH 28 – THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION INSINUATED THE POSSIBILITY OF USING A DRONE TO KILL AN AMERICAN INSIDE THE UNITED STATES. ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER QUASHED THAT NOTION, SAYING THE PRESIDENT DOESN'T HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO ORDER SUCH A STRIKE. BUT DRONES DO FLY OVER U.S. SOIL -- OPERATED BY LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT -- AND THEY HAVE IGNITED A FIRESTORM OF CONTROVERSY. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH IN PART 3 OF "DEBATING THE DRONE." CR

EC - Economy/Employment

JANUARY 1 – NEARLY 1 MILLION WORKERS WILL FIND A LITTLE MORE CHANGE IN THEIR POCKETS IN 2013. TEN STATES ARE RAISING THEIR MINIMUM-WAGE IN THE NEW YEAR. WORKERS IN RHODE ISLAND WILL SEE THEIR PAYCHECKS GROW THE MOST -- BY \$510 A YEAR FOR THE AVERAGE WORKER, ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT LAW PROJECT. THE STATE IS RAISING ITS MINIMUM WAGE 35 CENTS TO \$7.75 AN HOUR. IN NINE OTHER STATES -- ARIZONA, COLORADO, FLORIDA, MISSOURI, MONTANA, OHIO, OREGON, VERMONT AND WASHINGTON -- THE MINIMUM WAGE WILL JUMP BETWEEN 10 AND 15 CENTS AN HOUR. WITH MORE MONEY NEWS, HERE'S BRANDON DICKSON WITH MONEY CHRONICLES. EC

JANUARY 1 – NC STATE ECONOMIST LOOKS INTO HIS CRYSTAL BALL TO SEE HOW SECTORS MIGHT REBOUND ON THE NEW YEAR. HE SHARES HIS OUTLOOK WITH MARY WALDEN. EC

JANUARY 2 – WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES FACING ONE OF THE UNITED STATES' BIGGEST ECONOMIC COMPETITORS? DR. MIKE WALDEN AND MARY WALDEN LOOK EASTWARD FOR ANSWERS. EC

JANUARY 3 – A LEADING ECONOMIST HAS RELEASED HIS PROJECTIONS FOR NORTH CAROLINA'S ECONOMY IN 2013. JOHN CONNAUGHTON (CON-UGHT-UN) SPOKE TO ONE-THOUSAND BUSINESS LEADERS IN RTP AS PART OF THE ECONOMIC FORECAST FORUM. HERE'S AN EXCERPT FROM HIS REMARKS. EC

JANUARY 3 – DR. MATTHEW MARTIN, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, CHARLOTTE REGIONAL EXECUTIVE, FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF RICHMOND, CHARLOTTE BRANCH TALKED TO RICK MARTINEZ ABOUT WHERE THE TRIANGLE STANDS ON ECONOMIC RECOVERY. EC

JANUARY 3 – MICHAEL BROWN, ECONOMIST WELLS FARGO SECURITIES, LLC SPOKE WITH RICK MARTINEZ ABOUT HOW TRIANGLE HOUSING MARKET AFFECTS OUR LOCAL ECONOMY. EC

JANUARY 3 – MIKE HALPERN, SENIOR INVESTMENT STRATEGIST FOR WEALTH MANAGEMENT TEAM AT WELLS FARGO, OUTLINED UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN THE TRIANGLE AND WHAT TYPES OF LENDING ARE GROWING... WITH OUR RICK MARTINEZ. EC

JANUARY 3 – ARNE MORRIS, DIRECTOR OF WEALTH MANAGEMENT AT MCGLADREY, WITH RICK MARTINEZ ABOUT CHANGES PEOPLE WILL SEE THIS YEAR DUE TO THE FEDERAL BUDGET CHANGES AND HOW TRIANGLE BUSINESSES PREPARING FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR. EC

JANUARY 3 – JENNIFER DUNLEAVY, GREATER RALEIGH CHAMBER SMALL BUSINESS CHAIR AND PRESIDENT OF ACCURO SPOKE TO RICK MARTINEZ ABOUT HOW THE CHAMBER HELPS SMALL BUSINESSES. EC

JANUARY 3 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-DR. MICHAEL WALDEN,ECONOMICS PROFESSOR ,NCSU--A LOOK BACK AT THE ECONOMY OF 2012-EC

JANUARY 4 – WHAT DOES 2013 HOLD FOR TRIANGLE BUSINESS? BRIAN FREEMAN GOT A LOOK AT THE FUTURE FROM AMANDA HOYLE AT THE TRIANGLE BUSINESS JOURNAL. EC

JANUARY 4 – THE TRIANGLE AREA HAS MANAGED TO DO WELL AMONGST ALL THE ECONOMIC HARDSHIPS OF 2012, BUT WHAT OF THIS YEAR? HARVEY SCHMITT, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE RALEIGH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, TALKED TO BILL LUMAYE ON TALK RADIO 85P WPTF ON THE CHAMBER'S ECONOMIC OUTLOOK FOR 2013. EC

JANUARY 8 – IN 2011, NORTH CAROLINA HAD THE LOWEST RATE OF UNION MEMBERSHIP. AFTER THE HOSTESS INCIDENT LAST NOVEMBER, UNIONS ARE ONCE AGAIN COMING INTO THE SPOTLIGHT. HOWEVER, IT SEEMS UNIONS AREN'T WHAT THEY WERE WHEN THEY FIRST ORIGINATED IN THE UNITED STATES. REBECCA SMITH, A FORMER NEVADA TEAMSTER AND CURRENT LEAD CONSULTANT FOR THE LABOR RELATIONS INSTITUTE, TALKED WITH BILL LUMAYE ABOUT HOW SHE WAS KICKED OUT OF HER UNION AND EXPLAINS WHAT LABOR UNIONS HAVE EVOLVED INTO TODAY. EC

JANUARY 8 – SAVING MONEY IS ONE OF THE TOUGHEST THINGS TO DO ON A CONSISTENT BASIS FOR MOST OF US. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH TOM CORLEY- AUTHOR OF RICH HABITS- TO GET SOME ADVICE ON HOW TO SAVE MONEY WHILE STILL LIVING COMFORTABLY. EC

JANUARY 8 – NORTH CAROLINA LAWMAKERS ARE CONSIDERING CHANGES TO THE WAY THE STATE PAYS ITS UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS, AND CRITICS SAY THOSE CHANGES WOULD BE DEVASTATING TO THE JOBLESS. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TALKED ABOUT IT WITH GEORGE WENTWORTH FROM THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT LAW PROJECT. EC

JANUARY 9 – BEFORE THE RECESSION, PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES WERE UP TO THEIR EYEBALLS IN DEBT. FOR MANY, JOB LOSSES AND FAILING INVESTMENTS MADE THAT DEBT IMPOSSIBLE TO KEEP. ARE HOUSEHOLDS IN BETTER SHAPE TODAY? N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN ANSWERS. EC

JANUARY 9 – MANY PEOPLE WHO NEVER HAD MONEY FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE WITH IT, AND PEOPLE WHO'RE USED TO HAVING MONEY FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE WITHOUT IT. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH ENTREPRENEUR, BUSINESS CONSULTANT -- AND SELF-MADE MILLIONAIRE -- DR. DENIS BURKE, WHO SAYS THE BIGGEST DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RICH PEOPLE AND POOR PEOPLE IS HOW THEY THINK. EC

JANUARY 11 – THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE ANNOUNCED PLANS THIS WEEK TO OPEN THE 2013 FILING SEASON ON JANUARY 30TH. AND WHILE SOME OF US ARE STILL STRUGGLING TO RECOVER FROM ECONOMIC HARDSHIPS, WE LEAVE OURSELVES OPEN TO SCAMS THAT

WE OTHERWISE MAY NOT FALL PREY TO. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH MARK HANSON AT THE IRS TO GET SOME ADVICE ON AVOIDING TAX SEASON SCAMS. EC

JANUARY 11 – BRIAN FREEMAN GETS THE LATEST ON LOCAL BUSINESS NEWS FROM AMANDA HOYLE AT THE TRIANGLE BUSINESS JOURNAL, INCLUDING NEWS OF A BUSINESS ABOUT TO MOVE INTO SOME VACANT SPACE IN DOWNTOWN RALEIGH. EC

JANUARY 15 – TO MANY OF US THE FINANCIAL WORLD IS CONFUSING AND IS UNDERSTANDABLE AS THE WEATHER ON MARS. A TERM COMMONLY USED TO DESCRIBE PART OF THE FINANCIAL INDUSTRY IS SHADOW BANKING. DOES THIS TERM DESCRIBE PEOPLE WHO LURK AROUND STREET CORNERS OFFERING TO EARN YOU AN UNBELIEVABLY HIGH INTEREST RATE ON YOUR INVESTMENTS? N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN RESPONDS. EC

JANUARY 16 – THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WILL START OFFERING "MICRO LOANS" TO HELP OPERATORS OF SMALL AND FAMILY-RUN FARMS. EC

JANUARY 22 – SOMETIMES, SAYS MARY WALDEN, IT SEEMS WE TRY TO MAKE THE ECONOMY OVERLY COMPLEX. AN EXAMPLE: BUYING DURABLE GOODS SUCH AS VEHICLES, APPLIANCES AND FURNISHINGS. "I KNOW THAT ONE THING THAT MOTIVATES ME TO PURCHASE THESE PRODUCTS IS HOW OLD MY CURRENT MODEL ... IS. AM I BEING OVERLY SIMPLISTIC?" HER HUSBAND, N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN, ANSWERS. EC

JANUARY 21 – CHANGES IN HOUSEHOLD WEALTH HAVE BEEN A KEY PART OF THE ECONOMIC ROLLER COASTER THE LAST FEW YEARS. RECENTLY WE RECEIVED THE LATEST READING ON HOUSEHOLD WEALTH, AND N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN SAYS THE NUMBERS ARE ENCOURAGING. EC

JANUARY 21 – THERE WAS A SLIGHT INCREASE IN THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATES -- BRUCE FERRELL GOES INSIDE THE NUMBERS WITH LARRY PARKER WITH THE STATE COMMERCE DEPARTMENT. EC

JANUARY 21 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW--DR. MIKE WALDEN ECONOMIST, NCSU UPDATE ON THE STATE OF THE ECONOMY-EC

JANUARY 24 – PRO-GOLFER PHIL NICKLESON MADE A COMMENT ABOUT LEAVING CALIFORNIA DUE TO HIGH TAXES. VENTURE CAPITALIST AND AUTHOR, BILL GLYNN, JOINS MORNING DRIVE HOST DOUG KELLY TO SHED SOME LIGHT ON THAT COMMENT AND WHAT SOME OF US FORGET WHEN IT COMES ALL THE TAXES WE PAY. EC

JANUARY 24 – THE FEDERAL RESERVE MADE HISTORY RECENTLY: FOR THE FIRST TIME, IT LINKED ITS MONETARY POLICY TO SPECIFIC ECONOMIC GOALS FOR THE COUNTRY. N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN EXPLAINS WHAT THEY DID AND WHY IT'S IMPORTANT. EC

JANUARY 28 – WITH TAX SEASON UPON US, THE IRS IS REMINDING FILERS THAT -- WHILE MILLIONS OF AMERICANS ARE ELIGIBLE, AN ESTIMATED ONE IN FIVE WILL MISS OUT ON WHAT'S CALLED THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT -- BECAUSE THEY EITHER BECAUSE THEY DON'T CLAIM IT WHEN FILING, OR DON'T FILE A TAX RETURN AT ALL. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH TALKS WITH IRS SPOKESMAN MARK HANSEN TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT, AND HOW MUCH IT COULD BE WORTH TO THOSE WHO QUALIFY. EC

JANUARY 29 – THERE ARE GOOD BOSSES AND THERE ARE BAD BOSSES. N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN COMMENTS ON THEIR ACTUAL JOB AND WHAT THEIR VALUE AMOUNTS TO. EC

JANUARY 30 – A HANDFUL OF CREDIT COMPANIES ARE ADVERTISING CARDS WITH NO LATE FEES TO LURE IN NEW CUSTOMERS. COULD THIS POSSIBLY BE THE THE REAL THING, OR IS IT JUST MORE CREATIVE MARKETING? WPTF'S JOSH ZACH TALKS WITH CREDIT REPAIR EXPERT PAUL OSTER (AHH-STIR) TO FIND OUT THE REAL DEAL BEHIND THESE NO LATE FEE OFFERINGS. EC

JANUARY 30 – WHEN MOST PEOPLE THINK "MARKETING" THEY MIGHT THINK "BUSINESS." BUT IT'S MORE THAN JUST THAT. AND WITH ALL THE SUBTLITIES ADDED TOGETHER, CREATIVITY PLAYS A MAJOR ROLE IN CATCHING PEOPLE'S EYES. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH TALKED WITH MARKETING EXPERT CHRISTY VOGEL ABOUT HOW TO AMPLIFY A MARKETING MESSAGE SO IT DOESN'T FALL ON DEAF EARS. EC

FEBRUARY 4 – NORTH CAROLINA ADDED AROUND 60,000 JOBS IN 2012. IS THIS A GOOD NUMBER, AND WILL IT CONTINUE INTO 2013? N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN ANSWERS. EC

FEBRUARY 4 – ON FRIDAY THE DOW JONES CLOSED ABOVE 14000 FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE OCT 207. JILL SCHLESINGER FROM CBS MONEY WATCH DOT COM TALKS WITH BRIAN FREEMAN ON THIS AND MORE ON WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE BUSINESS WORLD. EC

FEBRUARY 5 – MARY WALDEN SAYS SHE'S RUNNING OUT OF ELECTRICAL OUTLETS AT HOME. "BETWEEN OUR APPLIANCES, TVS, COMPUTERS, AND SMARTPHONES, IT SEEMS LIKE WE DON'T HAVE AN AVAILABLE PLUG. AND I'M GUESSING WE'RE NOT ALONE. I IMAGINE OUR NATION'S ELECTRICITY USE MUST BE SKYROCKETING. AM I CORRECT?" HER HUSBAND, N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN, RESPONDS. EC

FEBRUARY 5 – HOW CAN JOB SEEKERS FIND THE PERFECT JOB IN TODAY'S TOUGH JOB MARKET? WPTF'S JOSH ZACH GOT SOME OF THE ANSWERS FROM JOB EXPERT AND MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER, COACH RON TUNICK. HE'S AN AUTHOR, CEO OF HIS OWN COMPANY, AND SAYS THE TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY IS WHERE JOB SEEKERS SHOULD BE LOOKING FOR THEIR FUTURE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES. EC

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FEBRUARY 6 – THE WAKE SCHOOL BOARD HAS A NEW MEMBER AND ALSO A NEW LOBBY FIRM. WHO IS THE NEW MEMBER AND WHY DOES THE BOARD NEED A LOBBYIST? EC

FEBRUARY 7 – INCOME TAX RATES ARE RISING ON A VERY SMALL PERCENTAGE OF HIGH-INCOME EARNERS. BUT, AS N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN EXPLAINS, THERE WAS ANOTHER TAX INCREASE THAT WILL AFFECT MANY MORE PEOPLE. EC

FEBRUARY 7 – NORTH CAROLINA BORROWED NEARLY \$2.5 BILLION FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO PAY UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS TO THOSE OUT OF WORK DURING THE RECESSION. NOW, UNCLE SAM WANTS HIS MONEY BACK. WPTF'S RICK MARTINEZ SPOKE TO

THE HEAD OF A GROUP OF EMPLOYERS WHO WILL BE CHARGED TO HELP REPAY THAT LOAN.
EC

FEBRUARY 8 – EARLIER THIS WEEK, DEBATE IN THE NORTH CAROLINA HOUSE GOT HEATED OVER HB4, A BILL THAT WOULD AMONG OTHER THINGS, REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PAYMENTS FOR RECIPIENTS AND RAISE UNEMPLOYMENT TAXES FOR NORTH CAROLINA BUSINESSES. WPTF'S RICK MARTINEZ HAS THIS REPORT. EC

FEBRUARY 8 – AMANDA HOYLE FROM THE TRIANGLE BUSINESS JOURNAL GIVES BRIAN FREEMAN THE HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LATEST LOCAL BUSINESS NEWS. EC

FEBRUARY 11 – HOW IS THE ECONOMY DOING AND WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR INVESTORS IN THE STOCK MARKET? BRIAN FREEMAN LOOKS AT THE TOPIC WITH CBS MONEYWATCH EDITOR AT LARGE JILL SCHLESINGER. EC

FEBRUARY 11 – CONSUMER ADVOCATES ARE PROTESTING A PROPOSED RATE HIKE BY DUKE ENERGY AND THE COMPANY'S LONG-TERM RESOURCE PLAN. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO HAS THE DETAILS. EC

FEBRUARY 12 – IN THE FISCAL-CLIFF DISCUSSIONS, THERE WAS A PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE COST-OF-LIVING-ADJUSTMENT FORMULA FOR SOCIAL SECURITY. IT WASN'T ADOPTED. N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN EXPLAINS WHAT THAT WAS ABOUT. EC

FEBRUARY 15 – HARRIS TEETER SUPERMARKETS CONFIRMED ON WEDNESDAY THAT IT HAS RETAINED J.P. MORGAN SECURITIES TO ASSIST THE COMPANY REGARDING STRATEGIC ALTERNATIVES. HARRIS TEETER SAID THERE'S NO ASSURANCE THE DISCUSSIONS WILL RESULT IN ANY TRANSACTION, BUT THE COMPANY HAS ALREADY BEEN APPROACHED BY TWO PRIVATE EQUITY FIRMS INTERESTED IN A DEAL FOR THE GROCERY RETAILER. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH DISCUSSED THE DEVELOPMENTS WITH JON SPRINGER, ASSOCIATE EDITOR OF THE GROCERY TRADE PUBLICATION, SUPERMARKET NEWS. EC

FEBRUARY 15 – ACCORDING TO A NEW REPORT FROM THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION, AMERICA IS ON A DANGEROUS BUDGET PATH AND IF IT CONTINUES DOWN THE PATH THE HIGH DEBT WILL WEAKEN THE ECONOMY AND HURT AMERICANS' POCKETS. ROMINA BOCCIA (BAH-CHA), RESEARCH COORDINATOR FOR THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION, TELLS MITCH KOKAI, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR AT THE JOHN LOCKE FOUNDATION, SITTING IN FOR BILL LUMAYE, JUST HOW DEEP THE DEBT IS IN OUR POCKETS ALREADY. EC

FEBRUARY 18 – AT A TIME WHEN THE ECONOMY IS SEEING VERY SLOW GROWTH... CAN WE REALLY AFFORD TO RAISE MINIMUM WAGE TO NINE DOLLARS LIKE THE PRESIDENT WANTS? VENTURE-CAPITAL'S FINANCIAL EXPERT, BILL GLEN, STOPS BY THE MORNING DRIVE WITH DOUG KELLETT TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION. EC

FEBRUARY 18 – THE U.S. AUTO INDUSTRY STARTED 2013 WITH A STRONG START THAT'S EXPECTED TO CONTINUE THROUGH THIS YEAR. WITH A NOTABLE PICK-UP IN CONSUMER SPENDING, MANUFACTURING SALES ARE EXPECTED TO ACCELERATE. DR. MIKE WALDEN, NC STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMICS PROFESSOR, TELLS BILL LUMAYE JUST HOW THE AUTO INDUSTRY IS COMING BACK COMPARED TO OTHER MARKETS IN THE U.S. EC

FEBRUARY 18 – THE NATION'S LEADING TAX SOFTWARE COMPANIES HAVE PARTNERED WITH THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, AND THE END RESULT IS THE ABILITY FOR SOME TO FILE THEIR TAXES ... BY THEMSELVES ... WITHOUT THE HELP OF A TAX PROFESSIONAL ... AT NO COST! WPTF'S JOSH ZACH TALKS WITH NORTH CAROLINA IRS SPOKESMAN MARK HANSON ABOUT THE IN'S AND OUT'S OF USING FREE FILE TO SUBMIT YOUR FEDERAL INCOME TAXES.
EC

FEBRUARY 18 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW--D. MIKE WALDEN,NCSU ECONOMICS PROFESSOR ON THE STATE OF THE ECONOMY-EC

FEBRUARY 19 – SOME STATE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS HAVE PROPOSED DRAMATICALLY CHANGING THE KINDS OF TAXES WE HAVE IN NORTH CAROLINA. N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN SUMMARIZES THE PROPOSAL AND RELATED ISSUES. EC

FEBRUARY 19 – GAS PRICES ARE ON THE RISE IN THE TRIANGLE, AND MANY DRIVERS ARE WONDERING HOW HIGH THEY'LL GO. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO LOOKS AT THE TRENDS IN RALEIGH AND AROUND THE COUNTRY. EC

FEBRUARY 20 – THE FEDERAL RESERVE HAS CREATED A LOT OF MONEY AND KEPT INTEREST RATES VERY LOW, IN ORDER TO SUPPORT AND STIMULATE THE ECONOMY. BUT SOME WORRY ABOUT THE DOWNSIDES OF THESE ACTIONS. ARE THERE ANY? N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN RESPONDS. EC

FEBRUARY 20 – GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY SIGNED INTO LAW, TUESDAY, CHANGES TO NORTH CAROLINA'S UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SYSTEM THAT SUPPORTERS SAY WILL PUT THE PLAN ON FIRMER FOOTING, BUT OPPONENTS CLAIM THE CHANGES WILL INFLICT GREATER HARDSHIP ON NORTH CAROLINIANS. WPTF'S RICK MARTINEZ SPOKE TO ONE OPPONENT OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE OVERHAUL; MITCHELL HIRSCH WITH THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT LAW PROJECT. EC

FEBRUARY 20 – SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS ARE PEOPLE WHO TACKLE SOCIAL PROBLEMS ... THE PLAY A KEY ROLE IN PURSUING OPPORTUNITIES IN ORDER TO MAKE IMPACTFUL, LASTING MARKS ON A BROAD RANGE OF ISSUES. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH TAPPED INTO DUKE'S FUQUA SCHOOL OF FINANCE -- A PLACE'S BEEN AT THE FOREFRONT IN DEFINING SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP -- AND SPOKE WITH ADJUNCT PROFESSOR CATHY CLARK TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TREND THAT, UNTIL ABOUT A DECADE AGO, WAS MOSTLY A FOREIGN CONCEPT. EC

FEBRUARY 21 – THE TERM 'NEW NORMAL,' COINED A FEW YEARS AGO, APPLIES TO OUR VERY SLOWLY IMPROVING ECONOMY. SOME ECONOMISTS ARE UPBEAT ABOUT THE ECONOMY AND ARE SAYING THE NEW NORMAL DOESN'T APPLY. N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN EXPLAINS. EC

FEBRUARY 21 – ON MAY 29TH THE GREATER RALEIGH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WILL HIGHLIGHT THE BEST OF THE BEST IN LOCAL BUSINESS AT THE PINNACLE BUSINESS AWARDS. WITH THE MARCH 4TH ENTRY DEADLINE APPROACHING... BRIAN FREEMAN SPOKE WITH PAST WINNER DONNA PEERY (PIER-EE) OF FIVE STAR STAFFING AND ACCOUNTING RECRUITERS ABOUT WHAT WINNING THE AWARD MEANT TO HER BUSINESS. EC

FEBRUARY 22 – SOME PROMINENT ECONOMISTS ARE RECOMMENDING MORE FEDERAL BORROWING. N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN EXPLAINS THEIR REASONING. EC

FEBRUARY 22 – A NEW HEAD MAN AT LENOVO'S RTP OPERATIONS AND GOOD NEWS ON THE HOME FRONT . BRUCE FERRELL HAS THIS BUSINESS UPDATE. EC

FEBRUARY 25 – A REPORT RECENTLY RELEASED FOUND AMERICANS HAVE INCREASINGLY USED FUNDS FROM THEIR RETIREMENT INVESTMENTS FOR DAILY EXPENSES – AND THIS IS BEFORE THEY HAVE RETIRED. HOW ARE THEY DOING IT, AND IS IT A GOOD IDEA? N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN ANSWERS. EC

FEBRUARY 25 – SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS SAY THEY CAN'T AFFORD A HEALTH CARE TAX THEY'LL BE HIT WITH NEXT YEAR UNDER OBAMA CARE. WPTF'S RICK MARTINEZ TALKED TO SHEILA OGLE, OWNER OF THE MATTHEWS HOUSE IN CARY, ABOUT HOW IT WILL AFFECT HER BUSINESS. EC

FEBRUARY 25 – LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS ARE PROTESTING A TAX THAT KICKS IN NEXT YEAR ALONG WITH THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT. THEY'VE FORMED AN ADVOCACY GROUP CALLED "STOP THE HIT" - OR HEALTH INSURANCE TAX. WPTF'S RICK MARTINEZ TALKED ABOUT IT WITH GREGG THOMPSON, THE NORTH CAROLINA DIRECTOR FOR THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS. EC

FEBRUARY 25 – WITH SEQUESTRATION COMING AT THE END OF THE WEEK IT BEGS THE QUESTION AS WHAT EFFECT IT MIGHT HAVE ON THE STOCK MARKET AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR YOUR INVESTMENTS. BRIAN FREEMAN LOOKED AT THE TOPIC WITH CBS MONEYWATCH EDITOR-AT-LARGE JILL SCHLESINGER. EC

FEBRUARY 26 – MOST OF US HAVE BEEN EXPERIENCING MORE PAIN AT THE PUMP LATELY -- WHAT'S THE REASON? BRUCE FERRELL SOUGHT TO GET SOME ANSWERS FROM TOM CROSBY WITH THE CAROLINAS TRIPLE A MOTOR CLUB. EC

FEBRUARY 26 – LAST YEAR, AN INITIATIVE CALLED "AMERICA SAVES WEEK" REACHED OVER 31 MILLION PEOPLE -- WITH AN ESTIMATED 2,000 ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED NATIONWIDE -- TO PROMOTE GOOD SAVINGS BEHAVIOR AND A CHANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS TO ASSESS THEIR OWN SAVING STATUS. THIS WEEK THAT SAME INITIATIVE CONTINUES. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON DISCUSSED "AMERICA SAVES WEEK" WITH DAN KEADY (SOUNDS LIKE KATIE), CHARLOTTE FINANCIAL PLANNER AND SPOKESPERSON FOR CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER BOARD OF STANDARDS. EC

FEBRUARY 26 – ON MAY 29TH THE GREATER RALEIGH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WILL HIGHLIGHT THE BEST OF THE BEST IN LOCAL BUSINESS AT THE PINNACLE BUSINESS AWARDS. WITH THE MARCH 4TH ENTRY DEADLINE APPROACHING... BRIAN FREEMAN SPOKE WITH PAST WINNER PENNY LAURICELLA FROM THE PRETTY IN PINK FOUNDATION ABOUT HER ORGANIZATION AND WHAT WINNING THE AWARD MEANT TO HER BUSINESS. EC

IF ECONOMIC FORECASTERS ARE CORRECT, WE WILL SEE OVER 2 MILLION JOBS CREATED IN THE COUNTRY THIS YEAR. BUT, AS N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN EXPLAINS, THIS DOESN'T MEAN ALL EXISTING JOBS WILL STAY IN PLACE AND WE WILL SIMPLY ADD 2 MILLION TO THE TOTAL. EC

FEBRUARY 27 – IF YOU HAVE A TABLET AND A SMARTPHONE YOU CAN SAVE MONEY BY TOSSING THE PHONE AND GETTING A CHEAP PHONE THAT'S JUST A PHONE. BRIAN FREEMAN GET DETAILS FROM OUR TREND AND TECH GURU GREG STEBBEN. EC

FEBRUARY 28 -TOM KEARNEY SHOW--RHONDA GARRISON OF THE SOUTHERN FARM NETWORK ON AGRICULTURE AND FARM BROADCASTING IN THE CAROLINAS AND VIRGINIA - EC

MARCH 1 – SAVE THE SEQUESTRATION TALK FOR MONDAY, BECAUSE THE RISE IN GAS PRICES ARE HITTING MY POCKET TODAY! CHARLES DREVNA, PRESIDENT OF AMERICAN FUEL AND PETROCHEMICAL MANUFACTURERS, CHATS WITH MORNING DRIVE HOST DOUG KELLETT TO CHAT ABOUT ENERGY POLICIES AND WHAT WE CAN DO TO LOWER THE COST OF GASOLINE. EC

MARCH 1 – IN THE DISCUSSION ABOUT TAX REFORM IN NORTH CAROLINA, TWO TERMS – CONSUMPTION TAX AND SALES TAX – ARE BEING MENTIONED. ARE THEY THE SAME? N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN ANSWERS. EC

MARCH 1 – THE NORTH CAROLINA FARM BUREAU SAID WEDNESDAY THAT A MAJORITY OF FARMERS STATEWIDE ARE HAVING TROUBLE HIRING QUALIFIED EMPLOYEES AND THEY HAVE ASKED LAWMAKERS FOR SUPPORT WITH IMMIGRATION REFORM. FARM BUREAU OFFICIALS AND SCORES OF FARMERS RALLIED SAYING INCREASED RESTRICTIONS ON MIGRANT WORKERS ARE LIMITING THEIR ABILITY TO GROW CROPS. RHONDA GARRISON, AGRICULTURE DIRECTOR OF THE SOUTHERN FARM NETWORK, SITS DOWN WITH BILL LUMAYE TO DISCUSS THE NEED FOR MIGRANT FARM LABOR IN NORTH CAROLINA AND HOW IT WILL INFLUENCE HARVESTING. EC

MARCH 1 – THERE SOME GOOD NEWS FOR ONE OF OUR LOCAL SPORTS TEAMS AND FOR THE GROWTH OF A LOCALLY BASED COMPUTER COMPANY. AMANDA HOYLE FROM THE TRIANGLE BUSINESS JOURNAL GIVES BRIAN FREEMAN THE DETAILS. EC

MARCH 1 – WHEN WE WANT TO FIND SOMETHING ON THE INTERNET, WE GO TO GOOGLE. HOW DO YOU TIE A FULL WINDSOR? GOOGLE IT! WHEN'S THE LAST TIME DUKE AND CAROLINA MET IN THE FINAL FOUR? GOOGLE IT! WHO'S HIRING? GOOGLE IT ... AND WHEN YOU DO SEARCH FOR JOBS, LOOK NO FURTHER THAN ... GOOGLE! THE SEARCH ENGINE IS HIRING, AND GOOGLE'S STAFFING DIRECTOR, SETH WILLIAMS, TELLS WPTF'S JOSH ZACH THAT THEY EMPLOY MORE THAN JUST ENGINEERS AND PROGRAMMERS. EC

MARCH 4 – MOST PEOPLE, WHEN THEY GO TO A JOB INTERVIEW, NEVER THINK ABOUT BEING ASKED ABOUT THEIR SEX SEXUAL PREFERENCE... SPORTSCASTER ERIK STONE STOPS BY THE MORNING DRIVE WITH DOUG KELLETT TO SHED SOME LIGHT ON THE NFL CONTROVERSY INVOLVING SEXUAL PREFERENCE QUESTIONS AT THE COMBINE. EC

MARCH 4 – ANNUAL DATA SHOW HOW AMERICAN WORKERS' COSTS HAVE CHANGED COMPARED TO FOREIGN WORKERS. THE NEWEST REPORT WAS RECENTLY RELEASED, AND N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN SHARES THE HIGHLIGHTS. EC

MARCH 4 – PRESIDENT OBAMA CALLED A LAST MINUTE MEETING WITH DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN SENATORS OVER THE WEEKEND SEEKING A COMPROMISE TO END THE SWEEPING, ACROSS-THE-BOARD CUTS. BUT NEITHER SIDE SHOWED SIGNS OF RELENTING AND THE SO-CALLED SEQUESTER KICKED IN FRIDAY NIGHT WHICH REQUIRES FEDERAL AGENCIES TO MAKE \$85 BILLION IN SPENDING CUTS STARTING NOW. NC HOUSE SPEAKER THOM TILLIS SPEAKS WITH BILL LUMAYE ON THESE CUTS AND HOW NC WILL FARE IN THE FUTURE. EC

MARCH 5 – A RECENT GOVERNMENT REPORT SHOWED THE ECONOMY GOING IN REVERSE AT THE END OF LAST YEAR. N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN CONSIDERS WHETHER WE ARE IN DANGER OF HEADING INTO ANOTHER RECESSION. EC

MARCH 5 – THE IRS BEGAN ACCEPTING 2012 RETURNS IN LATE JANUARY OF THIS YEAR, BUT THERE WERE SOME TAX FILERS TOLD THEY COULDN'T BEGIN FILING UNTIL LATE FEBRUARY OR EARLY MARCH. NOW THAT WE HAVE ENTERED THAT WINDOW IN TIME, WPTF'S JOSH SPOKE WITH MARK HANSEN AT THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE IN GREENSBORO TO FIND OUT IF ALL AMERICANS ARE FREE TO FILE. EC

MARCH 6 – EACH MONTH N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN CONSTRUCTS A LEADING ECONOMIC INDICATOR INDEX FOR NORTH CAROLINA, AND HE'S A LITTLE BULLISH ON THE RECENTLY RELEASED JANUARY INDEX. EC

MARCH 6 – A SEATTLE BASED REAL ESTATE SERVICE THAT PROVIDES ONLINE AND MOBILE REAL ESTATE TOOLS IS MAKING ENTRY INTO THE TRIANGLE AFTER SUCCESS IN AUSTIN, TEXAS. BRIAN FREEMAN SPOKE TO ALLEN WYDE, A LOCAL REAL ESTATE EXPERT AND AREA MANAGER FOR THE COMPANY CALLED REDFIN. EC

MARCH 6 – TAX SEASON IS IN FULL SWING AND, IF YOU HAVE NOT YET EVEN BEGUN TO POUR OVER YOUR TAXES, LISTEN CLOSE: THERE ARE SOME LESSER-KNOWN TAX DEDUCTIONS AND CREDITS WHICH COULD MAKE TAX DAY "HAPPY DAY" FOR SOME OF YOU. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH MARK HANSEN AT THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE IN GREENSBORO TO DISCUSS SOME OF THESE DEDUCTIONS THAT MANY OF US DON'T EVEN CONSIDER WHEN WE'RE CRUNCHING OUR NUMBERS. EC

MARCH 6 – STATE REGULATORS AND HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE COMPANIES ON TUESDAY REACHED A SETTLEMENT THAT ALLOW OVERALL STATEWIDE RATES TO INCREASE AN AVERAGE 7 PERCENT BEGINNING JULY 1. THE LAST HOMEOWNER'S INSURANCE RATE INCREASE TOOK EFFECT IN 2009. THE INSURANCE COMPANIES HAD SOUGHT A NEARLY 20 PERCENT STATEWIDE AVERAGE INCREASE THEN, BUT SETTLED FOR 4 PERCENT. UNDER THE SETTLEMENT THIS YEAR, RATES WILL INCREASE BY AS LITTLE AS 1 PERCENT IN SOME AREAS OF THE STATE, AND AS MUCH AS 19.8 PERCENT IN SOME BEACHFRONT AREAS OF COASTAL COUNTIES. WPTF NEWS DIRECTOR RICK MARTINEZ DISCUSSES WITH BRIAN FREEMAN THE RATE INCREASE AND HOW IT CAME TO BE RAISED IN THE FIRST PLACE. EC

MARCH 7 – WE NATURALLY FOCUS ON JOBS AND INCOME AS DRIVERS OF CONSUMER SPENDING, BUT FOR A LONG TIME ECONOMISTS HAVE ARGUED THAT A PERSON'S WEALTH IS ALSO A DETERMINANT OF SPENDING. DO WE KNOW HOW THIS WEALTH EFFECT HAS PLAYED OUT DURING THE RECENT UPS AND DOWNS OF OUR ECONOMY? N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN RESPONDS. EC

MARCH 8 – A FEW NORTH CAROLINA METROPOLITAN AREAS ARE GETTING A GOOD RANKING FOR THEIR ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE. N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN EXPLAINS. EC

MARCH 8 – AMANDA HOYLE FROM THE TRIANGLE BUSINESS JOURNAL WITH BRIAN FREEMAN ON THE LATEST A HUGE AMOUNT OF NEW JOBS COMING TO CARY AND AN RTP BUSINESS THAT IS IMPROVING SOMETHING THAT MAY END ON YOUR DINNER PLATE. EC

MARCH 11 – IN THE DISCUSSION ABOUT WHERE THE WORLD ECONOMY IS HEADED, THE TERM GLOBAL RE-BALANCING IS OFTEN USED. WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? DOES IT SUGGEST SOMETHING IS OUT OF BALANCE IN WORLD FINANCES AND, THEREFORE, MUST BE BROUGHT BACK IN BALANCE? N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN RESPONDS. EC

MARCH 11 – IS NORTH CAROLINA'S INCENTIVES PROGRAM SMART BUSINESS OR CORPORATE WELFARE? THAT QUESTION IS BEING ASKED IN LIGHT OF THE 90 MILLION DOLLAR DEAL THAT WILL BRING 2600 METLIFE JOBS TO CARY AND CHARLOTTE. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO LOOKS AT THE ISSUE. EC

MARCH 11 – AFTER A GREAT WEEK ON WALL STREET, WHAT CAN WE EXPECT THIS WEEK AND HOW WILL WALL STREET REACT TO IMPROVING JOBS NUMBERS WHICH WERE RELEASED ON FRIDAY? BRIAN FREEMAN SPOKE WITH CBS MONEYWATCH EDITOR-AT-LARGE JILL SCHLESINGER. EC

MARCH 12 – INCOME WAS DOWN LAST YEAR FOR THE STATE'S LARGEST INSURER, BUT BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD GAVE ITS TOP EXECUTIVES MUCH BIGGER BONUSES THAN THEY RECEIVED IN 2011. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TALKED ABOUT IT WITH JASON DEBRUIN OF THE TRIANGLE BUSINESS JOURNAL. EC

MARCH 12 – A NEW LOAN PROGRAM OFFERS HELP TO NORTH CAROLINA VETERANS WHO WANT TO BECOME ENTREPRENEURS, AS THEY RETURN HOME TO A SLOW JOB MARKET. EC

MARCH 12 – THE DEADLINE TO FILE YOUR STATE AND FEDERAL INCOME TAX IS JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE THAN A MONTH FROM NOW ... APRIL 15TH. AND IF YOU'RE CURRENTLY IN NEED OF SOME ADVICE WHILST CRUNCHING THE NUMBERS, MONEY MAGAZINE'S SENIOR EDITOR-AT-LARGE ELLEN STARK OFFERS THESE HELPFUL TIPS. EC

MARCH 13 – THE DEADLINE TO FILE YOUR STATE AND FEDERAL INCOME TAX IS JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE THAN A MONTH FROM NOW ... APRIL 15TH. AND IF YOU'RE CURRENTLY IN NEED OF SOME ADVICE WHILST CRUNCHING THE NUMBERS, MONEY MAGAZINE'S SENIOR EDITOR-AT-LARGE ELLEN STARK OFFERS THESE HELPFUL TIPS. EC

MARCH 15 – HAT'S THE HEALTH OF WHERE YOUR MONEY SITS? AMANDA HOYLE FROM THE TRIANGLE BUSINESS JOURNAL AND BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED ABOUT THE HEALTH SCORES FOR SOME LOCALLY BASED BANKS. EC

MARCH 15 – TODAY, WE'RE AT THE ONE-MONTH-DAY-MARK ... T-MINUS 31 DAYS AND COUNTING UNTIL APRIL 15TH, THE DATE ON WHICH YOU MUST FILE YOUR STATE AND FEDERAL INCOME TAXES. IF YOU'RE CURRENTLY IN NEED OF SOME ADVICE WHILST CRUNCHING THE NUMBERS, MONEY MAGAZINE'S SENIOR EDITOR-AT-LARGE ELLEN STARK OFFERS THESE HELPFUL TIPS. EC

MARCH 18 – THERE'S A LITTLE MORE OPTIMISM ABOUT THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION TODAY AS WE ARE SEEING BUSINESSES ADDING POSITIONS AND JOBLESS RATES TRENDING DOWN. HOWEVER, ONE OF THE SCARY STATISTICS FOR THE JOB MARKET HAS BEEN THE LENGTH OF TIME FOLKS HAVE BEEN OUT OF WORK. ARE WE SEEING ANY PROGRESS HERE? N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN ANSWERS. EC

MARCH 18 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW-ANN BUDDENHAGEN AND PAUL MILLER,CPAS-DISCUSS TAX PREPARATION AND TAX LAW CHANGES-EC

MARCH 19 – IN HIS STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS, PRESIDENT OBAMA CALLED FOR A RETURN TO MANUFACTURING AND FACTORY JOBS AS A WAY TO ECONOMIC RECOVERY. THE SAME RECOMMENDATION HAS BEEN MADE HERE IN NORTH CAROLINA. N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN CONSIDERS WHETHER MANUFACTURING CAN REALLY LEAD AN ECONOMIC REVIVAL. EC

MARCH 19 – NORTH CAROLINA'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE EDGED UP IN JANUARY AS THE STATE CONTINUES TO GRAPPLE WITH JOB LOSSES. WPTF'S BRUCE FERRELL SPOKE WITH LARRY PARKER -- SPOKESMAN FOR THE STATE COMMERCE DEPARTMENT -- TO DISCUSS THE LATEST NUMBERS. EC

MARCH 19 – THE LATEST QUARTERLY SURVEY OF CFOS FINDS THEY SUPPORT DRAMATIC IMMIGRATION REFORM TO ALLOW HIGHLY SKILLED WORKERS TO ENTER AND REMAIN IN THE COUNTRY. THE REPORT ALSO FINDS U.S. COMPANIES ARE EXPECTED TO INCREASE SPENDING AND PLAN HIRE MORE FULL-TIME WORKERS. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH PROFESSOR JOHN GRAHAM AT THE DUKE FUQUA SCHOOL OF BUSINESS TO GO OVER THE DATA OF THE LATEST SURVEY BY DUKE UNIVERSITY AND CFO MAGAZINE. EC

MARCH 20 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW-DR.MICHAEL WALDEN OF NCSU -COMMENTS ON THE ECONOMY-EC

MARCH 20 – THERE'S ALWAYS UNCERTAINTY IN INVESTING. ONE PARTICULAR PROBLEM TODAY IS THAT SAFE INVESTMENTS PAY VERY LOW RETURNS, AND YET INVESTMENTS LIKE STOCKS THAT HAVE DONE BETTER CAN ALWAYS RETREAT. N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN OFFERS FIVE SIMPLE RULES FOR THE AVERAGE INVESTOR. EC

MARCH 21 – MOST WORKERS SAW A 2 PERCENTAGE-POINT INCREASE IN THE PAYROLL TAX THEY PAY THIS YEAR. SOME WORRY THIS WILL BE BAD FOR THE ECONOMY BY CAUSING A REDUCTION IN CONSUMER SPENDING. HAVE WE SEEN ANY EVIDENCE OF THIS ADVERSE EFFECT YET? N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN ANSWERS. EC

MARCH 21 – WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR THE STATE'S LARGEST INDUSTRY .. RHONDA GARRISON WITH SFNTODAY.COM POSES THAT QUESTION TO STATE AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER STEVE TROXLER. EC

MARCH 21 – THERE'S PRETTY GOOD NEWS - BUT ALSO SOME BAD NEWS - ON PRICES FOR CONSUMERS. AMERICAN FARM BUREAU ECONOMIST JOHN ANDERSON EXPLAINS WHAT THAT MEANS FOR FOOD PRICES AND FARMERS. JOHNNA MILLER HAS THAT STORY. EC

MARCH 22 – A RECENT CROP INSURANCE FRAUD SCHEME CENTERED IN NORTH CAROLINA HAS SOME WONDERING ABOUT THE LONG TERM IMPACT ON SUCH SERVICES FOR FARMERS .. A CLOSER LOOK NOW FROM RHONDA GARRISON WITH SFNTODAY.COM. EC

MARCH 22 – WOMEN IN NORTH CAROLINA ARE BETTER EDUCATED AND MORE LIKELY TO WORK IN PROFESSIONAL ROLES THAN THEY DID TEN YEARS AGO, BUT THEY ALSO EARN LESS THAN MEN AND ARE MORE LIKELY TO LIVE IN POVERTY. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TALKED TO BETH BRIGGS FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL FOR WOMEN ABOUT THE "STATUS OF WOMEN" REPORT. EC

MARCH 22 – THE IRS IS LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD TAXPAYERS. THE SERVICE IS SEEKING CIVIC-MINDED VOLUNTEERS TO SERVE ON THE TAXPAYER ADVOCACY PANEL (OR TAP). WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH AND PAULETTE BEKOLO (BEEK-A-LOW) CEO & FOUNDER OF GLOBAL MINORITY BUSINESS NETWORK, AND IRS SPOKESMAN DAN BOONE ABOUT THE FEDERAL PANEL THAT MAKES RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING IRS SERVICES. EC

MARCH 25 – SPRING IS HERE AND THAT MEANS THE APRIL 15 TAX FILING DEADLINE ISN'T FAR AWAY. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH AUDITED THE KNOWLEDGE OF IRS SPOKESMAN DAN BOONE, WHO OFFERED UP SOME HELPFUL TIPS FOR THE NEARLY 1-MILLION NORTH CAROLINIANS WHO WILL WAIT UNTIL APRIL TO FILE. EC

MARCH 26 – THE NATION'S LARGEST ELECTRIC UTILITY COMPANY HAS ROLLED OUT A NEW LOGO THIS WEEK. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH RANDY WHEELLESS- SPOKESMAN FOR DUKE ENERGY- TO FIND OUT WHY THEY HAVE UNVEILED A NEW LOGO, HOW LONG IT WILL TAKE, AND THE COST TO YOU THE CONSUMER. EC

MARCH 27 – STUDENT LOAN DEBT IN THE UNITED STATES HAS NOW REACHED ALMOST \$1 TRILLION, AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF ALL HOUSEHOLD DEBT, IT HAS DOUBLED IN THE PAST 10 YEARS. BUT IS THIS A PROBLEM? N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN RESPONDS. EC

MARCH 27 – GOOD NEWS COULD BE ON THE WAY FOR MINIMUM WAGE EMPLOYEES AND THE STATE'S ECONOMY. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH SABINE (SA-BEAN-UH) SCHOENBACH- A POLICY ANALYST AT THE NORTH CAROLINA JUSTICE CENTER- TO DISCUSS THE IMPACT OF A POTENTIAL MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE. EC

MARCH 29 – FEW DRIVERS LIKE THE GAS TAX, BUT THE MONEY IS AN IMPORTANT SOURCE FOR FUNDING ROAD BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE. SO IS THERE A CATCH WHEN IT COMES TO A RECENT GAS TAX ELIMINATION PROPOSAL? N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN ANSWERS. EC

MARCH 29 – ARE YOU COMING HOME FROM WORK, WONDERING WHY YOU ARE SO TIRED? THERE'S A REASON ACCORDING TO AMANDA HOYLE FROM THE TRIANGLE BUSINESS JOURNAL. EC

ED- Education/PSA/Science

JANUARY 3 – PARENT INVOLVEMENT IS KEY WHEN IT COMES TO SCHOOL AND STUDENT SUCCESS, ACCORDING TO RESEARCH FROM NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY. STEPHANIE CARSON HAS MORE ON HOW PARENTS ARE PLAYING A ROLE IN CLASSROOMS AROUND THE STATE. ED

JANUARY 10 – RESEARCHERS AT DUKE UNIVERSITY ARE TAKING A DIFFERENT APPROACH TO QUICKLY DETECT AND DIAGNOSE INFECTIOUS DISEASES SUCH AS THE FLU AND STAPH. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH DR. GEOFFREY GINSBURG, THE LEAD AUTHOR OF TWO **NEW** STUDIES PUBLISHED ((TODAY / WEDNESDAY)) IN THE JOURNAL PLOS ONE, WHICH SHOW HOW GENOMIC INFORMATION CAN BE USED TO ACCURATELY PINPOINT THE CAUSE OF INFECTION. ED

JANUARY 11 – THE UNC SCHOOL SYSTEM IS THINKING ABOUT OFFER MORE OUT OF STATE STUDENTS THE CHANCE TO ATTEND THERE IN STATE SCHOOLS. BRIAN FREEMAN GOT DETAILS FROM RICK MARTINEZ. ED

JANUARY 15 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW -TIM TAYLOR AND STEVE ARNOLD COMPUTER EXPERTS ANSWER LISTENER'S QUESTIONS - ED

JANUARY 16 – A TASK FORCE HEADED BY VICE PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN, ON WEDNESDAY, PUT FORWARD RECOMMENDATIONS THAT MODEL PLANS BE DEVELOPED FOR SCHOOLS -- AND THAT LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS BE TRAINED TO RESPOND -- TO ACTIVE SHOOTER SITUATIONS. THE RECOMMENDATIONS CLOSELY MIRROR A PLAN TAKEN STATEWIDE IN 2002 BY NORTH CAROLINA ATTORNEY GENERAL ROY COOPER. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH A.G. COOPER ABOUT THE PLAN THAT HE SAYS SHOULD BE REINFORCED. ED

JANUARY 17 – THE WAKE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD AND THE WAKE COUNTY COMMISSION ARE PREPARING FOR A SHOWDOWN OVER THE SCHOOL SYSTEM'S RAINY DAY FUND. AS WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TELLS US, THE SCHOOLS WANT TO EXPAND THE FUND, WHILE THE COUNTY COMMISSION WANTS TO PULL THE PLUG ON IT. ED

JANUARY 21 – SAFETY ON SCHOOL CAMPUSES CONTINUES TO BE A MAJOR ISSUES -- STATE SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT JUNE ATKINSON DISCUSSED THE ISSUE WITH DON CURTIS ON CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS. ED

JANUARY 21 – THE WAKE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MAY SOON ASK TAXPAYERS TO PASS A NEARLY ONE BILLION DOLLAR BOND REFERENDUM, BUT THEY HAVE TO GET IT PAST THE COUNTY COMMISSION FIRST. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TELLS US WHY THAT MAY BE A TOUGHER TASK THAN CONVINCING VOTERS TO SUPPORT IT. ED

JANUARY 22 – THERE'S GOING TO BE A CHANGE IN OUR NATION'S SCHOOL SYSTEMS. THE COMMON CORE STANDARDS INITIATIVE IS MEANT TO INTEGRATE NONFICTION TEXT INTO THE ENGLISH PROGRAM. THIS WOULD MEAN CUTTING OUT A LOT OF LITERATURE FROM TEACHERS' CURRENT CURRICULUMS. EMMETT MCGROARTY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR THE AMERICAN PRINCIPLES PROJECT, TALKS WITH BILL LUMAYE ON THIS INITIATIVE IS LOWERING STANDARDS IN OUR CLASSROOMS. ED

JANUARY 23 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW--JOHN NARRON AND THURSTON DEBNAM, ATTORNEYS--IMPORTANCE OF MAKING A WILL-ED

JANUARY 24 – PATTY WILLIAMS OF GREAT SCHOOL APPLAUDED THE WAKE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD FOR DELAYING ITS DECISION TO PUT UNARMED SECURITY GUARDS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS SAYING MUCH MORE STUDY NEEDS TO BE DONE. ED

JANUARY 28 – SUNDAY KICKED OFF NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK ALL ACROSS THE COUNTRY. THIS IS A COLLABORATION OF OVER 200 ORGANIZATIONS THAT DO EVERYTHING THEY CAN TO MAKE SURE THE BEST EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT IS CHOSEN FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL CHILD WHETHER IT BE PUBLIC SCHOOL, PRIVATE SCHOOL, A VIRTUAL SCHOOL SETTING, OR HOMESCHOOLING. RACHEL SHEFIELD, RESEARCH ASSOCIATE AT THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION, TALKS WITH BILL LUMAYE ON THIS YEAR'S NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK AND THE PROGRESS BEING MADE IN SCHOOL CHOICE. ED

JANUARY 30 – THIS SUNDAY STARTED NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK, A PROJECT DIRECTED TO ADVANCE EMPOWER PARENTS WITH THE CHOICE OF THE BEST EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENTS FOR THEIR CHILDREN. IT ALSO SUPPORTS A VARIETY OF SCHOOL CHOICE OPTIONS INCLUDING CHARTER SCHOOLS, MAGNET SCHOOLS, VIRTUAL SCHOOLS, PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND HOME SCHOOLING. TERENCE GRADO (GRAY-DOE), DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL & STATE POLICY AT GENERATION OPPORTUNITY, TALKS WITH BILL LUMAYE ON NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK AND ENGAGING YOUNG PEOPLE IN THIS PROGRAM. ED

JANUARY 30 – A BOYCOTT OF MANDATED STANDARDIZED TEST BY TEACHERS AT A SEATTLE SCHOOL IS SPREADING TO OTHER SCHOOLS AND WINNING SUPPORT ACROSS THE COUNTRY, INCLUDING FROM THE TWO LARGEST TEACHERS' UNIONS, PARENTS, STUDENTS, RESEARCHERS AND EDUCATORS. THE DECISION BY THE TEACHERS TO BOYCOTT IS BECAUSE THEY SAY THE EXAMS DON'T EVALUATE LEARNING AND ARE A WASTE OF TIME. RENOWNED AUTHOR LEE BOYLAND, CHATS WITH DOUG KELLETT TO GIVE HIS OPINION ON WHETHER WE SHOULD HAVE STANDARDIZED TESTS FOR OUR STUDENTS. ED

FEBRUARY 5 – MISSOURI STATE SENATE IS CONSIDERING A BILL THAT WOULD REQUIRE ALL FIRST GRADERS IN THE STATE TO TAKE A GUN SAFETY TRAINING COURSE. USING A GRANT PROVIDED BY THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION, IT WOULD PUT A “NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION'S EDDIE EAGLE GUNSAFE PROGRAM” INSTRUCTOR IN EVERY FIRST GRADE CLASSROOM. ROB PINCUS, FIREARMS & PERSONAL DEFENSE EXPERT, TALKS WITH BILL LUMAYE ABOUT THIS PROPOSED BILL AND GIVES HIS REMARKS. ED

FEBRUARY 5 – AS PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES ACROSS THE NATION DEAL WITH MASSIVE CUTS TO THEIR BUDGETS, TRENDS FROM THE PAST DECADE SHOW THAT SPENDING PER ATHLETE HAS GONE IN ONLY ONE DIRECTION. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO DISCUSSES THE FINDING WITH JASON DEBRUYN AT THE TRIANGLE BUSINESS JOURNAL. ED

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FEBRUARY 6 – OUR COUNTRY HAS SEEN BIG COLLEGE TUITION INCREASES IN RECENT YEARS. N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN CONSIDERS WHETHER THE NUMBERS WE HEAR QUOTED TELL THE WHOLE STORY. ED

FEBRUARY 7 – WITH LESS THAN FOUR PERCENT OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, EIGHT PERCENT OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS, AND TWO PERCENT OF HIGH SCHOOLS PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR DAILY PHYSICAL EDUCATION, OBESITY AMONG CHILDREN IS A GROWING PROBLEM. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH FITNESS EXPERT TARA STILES AND CEO OF

ALLIANCE FOR A HEALTHIER GENERATION, GINNY EHRLICH, TO GET SOME TIPS AND HOW TO INSPIRE HEALTHY SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES. ED

FEBRUARY 8 – CORPORAL PUNISHMENT IS STILL IN AFFECT IN SEVERAL NORTH CAROLINA SCHOOL DISTRICTS BUT THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS IS HOPING FOR SOME SORT OF CHANGE. BRIAN FREEMAN DISCUSSED WHAT THE BOARD IS ASKING OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS WITH NEWS DIRECTOR RICK MARTINEZ. ED

FEBRUARY 18 – THE STANDARD COURSE OF STUDY IN NORTH CAROLINA'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS PERIODICALLY REVISED TO REFLECT THE CHANGING NEEDS OF STUDENTS. THE COURSE WAS UPDATED IN 1985 AND -- SINCE THAT TIME -- WE'VE WITNESSED A DRAMATIC SHIFT IN THE NEEDS OF BUSINESS, INDUSTRY AND SOCIETY. FOR THAT REASON, NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SCHOOLS ARE NOW TEACHING A NEW COURSE OF STUDY -- THE FIRST UPDATE IN 27 YEARS -- TO BETTER PREPARE STUDENTS FOR THE DEMANDS OF THE 21ST CENTURY. WITH CHANGE OFTEN COMES PAIN AND CONFUSION, AND WPTF'S JOSH ZACH ASKED LINDA HARRILL, A LIFELONG EDUCATOR AND FORMER CEO OF COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS NORTH CAROLINA, HOW SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS HAVE BEEN ADAPTING TO THE NEW STANDARDS. ED

FEBRUARY 18 – UNC CHAPEL HILL CHANCELLOR HOLDEN THORPE, WHO IS SCHEDULED TO LEAVE THE SCHOOL IN JUNE HAS TAKEN ON A NEW POSITION WITH A ST. LOUIS BASED UNIVERSITY. NEWS DIRECTOR RICK MARTINEZ REVIEWED THE MOVE WITH BRIAN FREEMAN. ED

FEBRUARY 19 – TONY TATA HAS A NEW JOB AT THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND -- IF YOU'VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES -- HE COULD BE YOUR BOSS FOR A YEAR! THE NCDOT IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FROM COLLEGE SENIORS, WHO'RE ON TRACK TO GRADUATE THIS SPRING SEMESTER, FOR AN APPRENTICE PROGRAM THAT OFFERS REAL WORLD, IN-THE-FIELD EXPERIENCE. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH JENNIFER GARIFO (GARE-IF-OH) AT THE DOT TO LEARN ABOUT WHAT THE DOT HAS TO OFFER TO PROSPECTIVE GRADUATING APPLICANTS. ED

FEBRUARY 19 – GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY SIGNED THE CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION LAW ON MONDAY - THE FIRST PIECE OF LEGISLATION HE'S SIGNED SINCE TAKING OFFICE. IT'S INTENDED TO HELP HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS PREPARE FOR THE WORK FORCE. WPTF'S RICK MARTINEZ TALKED TO STATE SUPERINTENDENT JUNE ATKINSON ABOUT THE CHANGES THE LAW WILL BRING ABOUT. ED

FEBRUARY 21 – THE WAKE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD AND WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ARE AT ODDS OVER WHO SHOULD OWN THE COUNTY'S SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND THE NEED TO ISSUE SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BONDS. BRIAN FREEMAN AND RICK MARTINEZ LOOK AT ALL THE ISSUES BEING DISCUSSED IN A MEETING TODAY. ED

FEBRUARY 22 – THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA IS THINKING OF INSTALLING CONDOM DISPENSERS ACROSS THEIR CAMPUS. WOULD THIS TRIVIALIZE THE CONSEQUENCES OF YOUNG ADULTS SEXUAL ACTIVITY? ABSTINENCE ASSOCIATION SPOKESPERSON VALERIE HUBER, STOPS IN TO THE MORNING DRIVE WITH DOUG KELLETT TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION AND TELL US MORE ABOUT THE CONTROVERSIAL SEX BILL IN CONGRESS. ED

FEBRUARY 22 – THE WAKE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD WANTS TAXPAYERS TO PASS A BOND REFERENDUM FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION, BUT THEY HAVE TO GET THE REQUEST PAST THE COUNTY COMMISSION FIRST. AS WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO REPORTS, FEUDING BETWEEN THE TWO BOARDS COULD PUT THE BOND VOTE ON THE BACK BURNER. ED

FEBRUARY 25 – SINCE NORTH CAROLINA LAWMAKERS LIFTED THE CAP ON THE NUMBER OF CHARTER SCHOOLS IN THE STATE, THEIR NUMBERS ARE RISING. 34 NEW PUBLIC CHARTERS

WERE APPROVED IN 2012, AND 156 LETTERS OF INTENT TO OPEN A CHARTER WERE SUBMITTED AS OF EARLY JANUARY, 2012. WITH THE POPULARITY OF CHARTER SCHOOLS GAINING GROUND, WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH LINDA HARRILL -- FORMER PRESIDENT OF COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA -- TO FIND OUT IF COMPARING TRADITIONAL SCHOOLS AND CHARTERS IS AN APPLES TO ORANGES ARGUMENT, OR IS ONE MODEL REALLY BETTER THAN THE OTHER. ED

FEBRUARY 28 -- THE RECESSION HAS TOUCHED VIRTUALLY EVERYONE YET THE IMPACT HAS NOT BEEN FELT EQUALLY. N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN DISCUSSES HOW THE RECESSION'S IMPACTS VARIES A PERSON'S EDUCATION LEVEL. ED

FEBRUARY 28 -- NORTH CAROLINA'S SCHOOLS AND BUSINESSES, ON MONDAY, KICKED OFF THE THIRD ANNUAL "STUDENTS AT WORK WEEK." WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH DALE WHITWORTH -- BOARD CHAIRMAN FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA BUSINESS COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION -- WHO SAYS THE GOAL OF THE WEEK IS TO RAISE NORTH CAROLINA'S GRADUATION RATE BY OFFERING MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS A LOOK AT FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES IN THE WORKPLACE. ED

FEBRUARY 28 -- UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN MAKING SURPRISE CLASS INSPECTIONS TO MAKE SURE THEY ARE TAKING PLACE AND STUDENTS ARE IN ATTENDANCE. BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED TO RICK MARTINEZ ABOUT WHAT THESE VISITS ARE ALL ABOUT. ED

MARCH 1 -- ELON UNIVERSITY HAS PARTNERED WITH THE PEACE CORPS TO INTRODUCE AN ACADEMIC AND SERVICE PROGRAM THAT WILL BETTER PREPARE STUDENTS FOR CAREERS IN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH ELON AGRO-ECOLOGIST STEVE MOORE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROGRAM THAT ELON UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT LEO LAMBERT SAID WILL PREPARE GLOBAL CITIZENS TO WORK FOR THE COMMON GOOD. ED

MARCH 4 -- IN THE WAKE OF YET ANOTHER TEENAGER'S DEATH IN A JOHNSTON COUNTY CRASH, LOCAL LEADERS ARE EXPANDING A PROGRAM THAT HELPS TEENS TALK TO OTHER TEENS ABOUT SAFE DRIVING. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO LOOKS AT THE PROBLEM AND A POTENTIAL SOLUTION. ED

MARCH 5 -- SEVEN OUT OF TEN NORTH CAROLINIANS ARE SOMEWHAT WORRIED OR VERY WORRIED ABOUT THE FEDERAL BUDGET CUTS THAT KICKED IN LAST WEEK, ACCORDING TO AN ELON UNIVERSITY POLL. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TALKED TO POLL DIRECTOR KENNETH FERNANDEZ ABOUT HOW THE FALLOUT IS AFFECTING PUBLIC OPINION OF CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT. ED

MARCH 8 -- CRIMINAL CHARGES COULD COME AS EARLY AS NEXT WEEK IN THE ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT THAT SURROUNDED UNC-CHAPEL HILL'S FORMER AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM. BRIAN FREEMAN AND RICK MARTINEZ GO IN-DEPTH ON THIS CONTINUING STORY. ED

MARCH 13 -- FORMER UNC PRESIDENT ERSKINE BOWLES WILL GIVE THE COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS AT WILLIAM PEACE UNIVERSITY ON MAY 11. BRIAN FREEMAN SPOKE TO RICK MARTINEZ ABOUT THE SELECTION PROCESS COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES GO THROUGH WHEN SELECTING A COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER. ED

MARCH 14 -- WAKE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS ARE CONSIDERING A PROPOSAL THAT WOULD MAKE SCHOOLS SAFER. THE IMPROVEMENTS COME ON THE THREE MONTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAGIC SHOOTING AT SANDY HOOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN NEWTOWN, CONN. ABC 11'S SHEYANNE RODRITUEZ REPORTS FROM CARY. ED

MARCH 18 – SENATOR KAY HAGAN, CHAIR OF THE SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES, ANNOUNCED MAJOR EDUCATION LEGISLATION DURING A VISIT TO HILLSIDE HIGH SCHOOL IN DURHAM. HILLSIDE HIGH SCHOOL WAS ONE OF 17 SCHOOLS THAT RECEIVED SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS IN 2011. RICK MARTINEZ TALKED WITH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL DR. TERRY LOGAN ABOUT HOW THE GRANT HAS HELPED STUDENTS AND TEACHERS. ED

MARCH 19 – STUDENTS WHO EARN MBAS FROM DUKE'S FUQUA SCHOOL OF BUSINESS HAVE ONE OF THE MOST VALUABLE DEGREES IN THE COUNTRY, BUT THEY ALSO HAVE MORE DEBT THAN STUDENTS FROM ANY OTHER BUSINESS SCHOOL. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO LOOKS AT THE PRICE TAG WITH JASON DEBRUIN FROM THE TRIANGLE BUSINESS JOURNAL. ED

MARCH 20 – THE WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION WELCOMED ITS NEWEST MEMBER LAST EVENING JUST BEFORE KICKING OFF A PUBLIC HEARING ABOUT NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET. ABC 11'S ANGELICA ALVAREZ TELLS US THE DETAILS. ED

MARCH 20 – A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION BASED IN RALEIGH IS AIMING TO REDUCE VIOLENCE ALL THIS WEEK. "SAVE" IS WORKING WITH HIGH SCHOOLS ACROSS THE COUNTRY TO RAISE AWARENESS ON ISSUES INCLUDING TEEN VIOLENCE, BULLYING, CONFLICT MANAGEMENT, AND ANGER MANAGEMENT. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH CARLEEN WRAY- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF "SAVE" - TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION AND NATIONAL YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION WEEK. ED

MARCH 21 – GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY ANNOUNCED A CENTER FOR SAFER SCHOOLS. BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL ROY COOPER ABOUT SOME THINGS THAT HAVE ALREADY WORKED TO KEEP SCHOOLS SAFE, INCLUDING A CENTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF SCHOOL VIOLENCE. ED

MARCH 21 – PRESIDENT OBAMA IS IN THE MIDDLE EAST WORKING ON TRYING TO FOSTER PEACE BETWEEN THE ISRAELIS AND PALESTINIANS. THE RALEIGH CHAMBER IS ALSO TRYING TO BROKER A PEACE DEAL BETWEEN THE WAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND MEMBERS OF THE WAKE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD. RICK MARTINEZ REPORTS. ED

MARCH 21 – TODAY IS THE DAY THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA IS EXPECTED TO HAND OVER DOCUMENTS TO FEDERAL INVESTIGATORS ON HOW THE UNIVERSITY HANDLES SEXUAL ASSAULT CASES, THIS AFTER A FEDERAL COMPLAINT WAS FILED AGAINST THE SCHOOL... ABC 11'S SHEYANNE RODRIQUEZ IS ON CAMPUS IN CHAPEL HILL. ED

MARCH 25 – NORTH CAROLINA RANKS NEARLY DEAD LAST WITH REGARD TO THE DENTIST-TO-RESIDENT-RATIO. IT'S NOTHING TO SMILE ABOUT, SO EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY BEGAN AN ENTIRELY NEW SCHOOL TO EDUCATE THESE COVETED DENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS HERE IN NORTH CAROLINA. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH JENNIFER AMSTER, DIRECTOR OF HIGHER-ED PROJECTS AT E-Y-P BJAC (BEE-JACK) ARCHITECTURE, THE FIRM COMMISSIONED TO DESIGN 10 STATEWIDE CLINICS FOR THE PROGRAM ... ECU'S VISION TO ANSWER THE NEEDS OF THE STATE'S GROWING HEALTH NEED. ED

MARCH 27 – DESPITE THE NORTH CAROLINA SCHOOL BUS STOP LAW BEING IN PLACE, SCHOOL BUS STOP ARM VIOLATIONS CONTINUE TO BE A DANGEROUS PROBLEM. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH BETH MCCULLOUGH- WITH CHATHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS- TO DISCUSS THE LATEST REPORT ON STOP ARM VIOLATIONS AND TO CLARIFY WHAT THE STATE SCHOOL BUS STOP LAW ENTAILS. ED

MARCH 28 – STUDENTS FROM THE UNC SYSTEM ARE CALLING OUT GOVERNOR MCCRORY FOR REDUCING FUNDING FOR THE STATE'S 17 UNIVERSITIES. STEPHANIE HAWCO TAKES US TO A PROTEST IN DOWNTOWN RALEIGH. ED

JANUARY 22 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW--OPEN PHONE NIGHT--MEMORIES OF "THE GREAT GRIDLOCK" (JANUARY 19, 2005)- EH

JANUARY 24 – WILL WE SEE THE WINTERY MIX THAT EVERYONE IS TALKING ABOUT? BRIAN FREEMAN SPOKE WITH ACCUWEATHER'S BRIAN THOMPSON TO GET DETAILS. EH

JANUARY 31 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-NICK PETRO OF NOAA-NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE-THE NEW WEA WARNING SERVICE -WINTER WEATHER- EH

FEBRUARY 7 – THE NORTHEAST IS BRACING FOR A MAJOR WINTER EVENT AND IT VERY WELL COULD AFFECT AIR TRAVEL FROM RALEIGH. BRIAN FREEMAN GETS DETAILS FROM ACCUWEATHER'S BRIAN THOMPSON. EH

FEBRUARY 8 – WE KNOW THAT EVERYONE IS LOOKING FORWARD TO THE WEEKEND, BUT CAN WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE WEATHER? BRIAN FREEMAN GOT THIS WEEKEND AND EARLY NEXT WEEK'S FORECASTS FROM ACCUWEATHER'S BRIAN THOMPSON. EH

FEBRUARY 18 – AFTER A COOLER THAN NORMAL WEEKEND AROUND THE TRIANGLE, WHAT WILL OUR WEEK BRING WEATHER WISE? BRIAN FREEMAN GOT THE "WEEK AHEAD" FORECAST FROM ACCUWEATHER'S DAN PADANOWSKI. EH

FEBRUARY 21 – NORTH CAROLINA FOREST OFFICIALS ARE WORKING WITH THE TOWN OF CARY TO SCHEDULE A PRESCRIBED BURN SOMETIME WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON SPOKE WITH MARK BOST, WITH THE NORTH CAROLINA FOREST SERVICE, TO FIND OUT HOW THEY HAVE PREPARED FOR THE BURN. EH

FEBRUARY 21 – FREEZING RAIN IS EXPECTED OVERNIGHT AND INTO TOMORROW MORNING...PLUS, WILL RAIN RUIN YOUR WEEKEND PLANS? BRIAN FREEMAN GETS THE WEEKEND WEATHER PREVIEW FROM ACCUWEATHER. EH

FEBRUARY 25 – HEAVY SNOW IS EXPECTED IN THE CENTRAL PORTION OF THE COUNTRY AND WE ARE EXPECTING RAIN TONIGHT AND TOMORROW...BUT HOW MUCH? DAN PADINOWSKI AT ACCUWEATHER GAVE BRIAN FREEMAN DETAILS. EH

MARCH 6 – THERE'S A MASSIVE WINTER STORM SYSTEM SLOGGING THROUGH THE U.S. THAT WILL BRING SOME COLDER TEMPERATURES AND SPOTTY SHOWERS IN THE TRIANGLE TODAY, BUT IT WILL MAINLY HIT THE STATES NORTH OF US.. ACCUWEATHER'S KERRY SCHWENINHAMMER GIVES BRIAN FREEMAN A LOOK AT THE WEATHER IN THE MID-ATLANTIC AND NORTHEAST AND POSSIBLE TRAVELING DELAYS IN THE AREA. EH

MARCH 7 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW--NICK PETRO OF NOAA NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE-ON SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK-EH

MARCH 8 – IN OPPOSITION TO DUKE ENERGY'S NUCLEAR POWER PLANT EXPANSION GREENPEACE ACTIVISTS USED THEIR GREEN THUMBS. THEY PLANTED CHERRY TREES IN FRONT OF THE DUKE ENERGY HARRIS NUCLEAR PLANT NEAR NEW HILL IN MEMORY OF THE FUKUSHIMA NUCLEAR MELTDOWN TWO YEARS AGO. JIM RICCIO (RICK-EE-O), A NUCLEAR POLICY ANALYST AT GREENPEACE, DISCUSSES WITH BILL LUMAYE THE PLANTING OF THE CHERRY TREES AND GREENPEACE'S PUSH FOR CLEAN ENERGY. EH

MARCH 11 – HEAVY RAIN IS EXPECTED TONIGHT INTO TOMORROW MORNING, BUT THEN WHAT? BRIAN FREEMAN GETS DETAILS FROM ACCUWEATHER'S DAN D'PODWIN ABOUT OUR WEATHER THIS WEEK. EH

MARCH 12 – A SITE ONCE DEEMED AMONG THE MOST CONTAMINATED IN THE COUNTRY WILL BE DEVELOPED INTO A HUB FOR CLEAN ENERGY COMPANIES. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO REPORTS ON PLANS FOR THE ULTIMATE RECYCLING PROJECT. EH

MARCH 25 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW-TOM EARNHARDT-DISCUSSES HIS NEW BOOK "CROSSROADS OF THE NATURAL WORLD:EXPLORING NORTH CAROLINA WITH TOM EARNHARDT." EH

MARCH 28 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW-PHILIP GERARD-DISCUSSES HIS NEW BOOK "DOWN THE WILD CAPE FEAR:A RIVER JOURNEY THROUGH THE HEART OF NORTH CAROLINA. EH

MARCH 28 – OVER 200 LAND CONSERVATIONISTS WERE IN RALEIGH ON WEDNESDAY HOPING TO CONVINCE LAWMAKERS NOT TO CUT FUNDING FOR LAND CONSERVATION. WPTF'S PATRICK JOHNSON HAS STORIES OF TWO MEN WHO SAY NORTH CAROLINA'S NATURAL RESOURCES ARE A HUGE ECONOMIC ENGINE. ENVIRONMENT. EH

GA – Government Affairs

JANUARY 1 – EARLY TUESDAY MORNING THE SENATE APPROVED A BIPARTISAN AGREEMENT TO LET INCOME TAXES RISE SHARPLY FOR THE FIRST TIME IN TWO DECADES FULFILLING OBAMA'S PROMISE TO RAISE TAXES ON THE RICH AND AVOIDING THE WORSE EFFECTS OF THE "FISCAL CLIFF". EVERTE FARNELL, LIBERTARIAN & POLITICAL BLOGGER, TALKED TO PERRY WOODS, DEMOCRATIC CONSULTANT ON TALK RADIO 850 WPTF ABOUT AVOIDING THE CLIFF AND FIXING THE DEBT. GA

JANUARY 1 – GOV BEVERLY PERDUE, RALEIGH MAYOR NANCY MCFARLANE AND NC SECRETARY OF STATE ELAINE MARSHALL HAVE SIGNED DOCUMENTS LEASING THE STATE-OWNED DOROTHEA DIX PROPERTY TO THE CITY OF RALEIGH. THE CITY WILL PAY \$500,000 PER YEAR TO LEASE THE PROPERTY UNDER A 75 YEAR AGREEMENTS. RUSS STEPHENSON, A RALEIGH CITY COUNCILMAN, TALKED TO PERRY WOODS, DEMOCRATIC CONSULTANT, ABOUT RALEIGH'S PLANS FOR THE DOROTHEA DIX PROPERTY. GA

JANUARY 2 – GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY TAKES THE OATH OF OFFICE THIS WEEK -- BARLOW HERGET WITH SGRTODAY.COM TALKED WITH LONGTIME POLITICAL OBSERVER FERREL GUILLORY ABOUT WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THE NEW ADMINISTRATION. GA

JANUARY 2 – A NEW SMOKING BAN TOOK EFFECT IN ORANGE COUNTY ON JANUARY 1ST. IT FORBIDS LIGHTING UP IN MANY PUBLIC PLACES. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TALKED TO PAM DIGGS, A HEALTH PROMOTION COORDINATOR WITH THE COUNTY, ABOUT HOW THEY'RE ROLLING OUT THE BAN. GA

JANUARY 3 – AFTER MIDNIGHT ON NEW YEAR'S, THE SENATE REACHED A DECISION ON THE SO-CALLED FISCAL CLIFF AND THE HOUSE APPROVED THE BILL. THE END RESULT? TAX CUTS FOR MOST AMERICANS IS STILL IN PLACE BUT RATES ARE INCREASED ON THE WEALTHY. THOUGH MANY ARE RELIEVED TO HAVE AVOIDED THE CLIFF, THERE ARE SOME WHO ARE NOT HAPPY WITH THE AGREEMENT. ONE OF THOSE MEN IS RICK MANNING, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR FOR AMERICAN'S FOR LIMITED GOVERNMENT. HE TALKED TO BILL LUMAYE ON TALK RADIO 850 WPTF ABOUT FINAL DECISION REACHED ON THE FISCAL CLIFF AND WHY THIS BILL IS BAD FOR AMERICA. GA

JANUARY 4 – OUR NEXT GOVERNOR TAKES OFFICE TOMORROW AT NOON DURING A PRIVATE CEREMONY. BARLOW HERGET FROM SGRTODAY.COM GAVE BRIAN FREEMAN A PREVIEW OF WHAT IS ON PAT MCCRORY'S SCHEDULE FOR THE NEXT COUPLE OF WEEKS. GA

JANUARY 4 – TONY TATA, ONCE THE EMBATTLED SUPERINTENDENT OF THE WAKE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM, HAS LANDED A NEW ASSIGNMENT AS SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.

WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO REPORTS ON HOW TATA'S LEADERSHIP STYLE WILL TRANSLATE TO THE D-O-T. GA

JANUARY 8 – GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY IS GRAPPLING WITH SOME DAUNTING ISSUES AFTER JUST TWO DAYS ON THE JOB, FROM SERIOUS TECHNOLOGY PROBLEMS TO A RAZOR-THIN BUDGET SURPLUS. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO REPORTS ON THE CHALLENGES THE NEW GOVERNOR IS FACING AND HE PLANS TO FIX THEM. GA

JANUARY 9 – STATE LAWMAKERS BEGIN THE 2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION TODAY WITH A LONG LIST OF PRIORITIES AND LITTLE AGREEMENT ON HOW TO TACKLE THEM. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO HAS A PREVIEW OF WHAT'S AHEAD. GA

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JANUARY 9 – THE PRESIDENT OF POLITICAL MEDIA INC, LARRY WARD HAS LAUNCHED A WEBSITE AND A MOVEMENT TITLED "GUN APPRECIATION DAY" IN THE WAKE OF THE PUSH FOR GUN CONTROL. SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 19TH, GUN APPRECIATION DAY IS DESIGNATED AS A DAY FOR GUN OWNERS AND SUPPORTERS OF THE 2ND AMENDMENT TO SHOW THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS BY SHOWING UP AT GUN STORES, RANGES, AND SHOWS. LARRY WARD TALKED WITH BILL LUMAYE ABOUT THIS MOVEMENT AND EXPRESSES HIS HOPE THAT GUN OWNERS WILL RALLY AGAINST PRESIDENT OBAMA'S ASSAULT ON GUN RIGHTS. GA

JANUARY 10 – THERE ARE MANY ISSUES SURROUNDING THE NATIONAL DEBT, INCLUDING THE QUESTION OF TO WHOM IS THE DEBT OWED. N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN GIVES THE LATEST FIGURES. GA

JANUARY 10 – THE REPUBLICAN-LED GENERAL ASSEMBLY RETURNED TO TOWN ON WEDNESDAY FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE REPUBLICAN GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY WAS ELECTED. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TAKES US TO OPENING DAY AND TELLS US HOW THIS SESSION MIGHT BE DIFFERENT FROM YEARS PAST. GA

JANUARY 10 – TWO OF THE BIGGEST ISSUES THAT GOV. PAT MCCRORY WILL BE FACING WILL BE TAX REFORM AND IMPLEMENTING PRESIDENT OBAMA'S HEALTH CARE LAW. MCCRORY SAYS ALL PARTIES ARE GOING TO WORK TOGETHER TO TAKE ACTION, BUT SOME TOES WILL BE STEPPED ON TO GET THINGS DONE. DALLAS WOODHOUSE, STATE DIRECTOR FOR THE AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY-NC, TALKED TO BILL LUMAYE ABOUT THE NEW GOVERNOR'S PLANS FOR TAX REFORM AND COMMENTS ON THE STATE EXCHANGES WITH OBAMA-CARE. GA

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JANUARY 11 – WHITE HOUSE OFFICIALS SAY A NEW BAN ON GUNS WILL BE AN ELEMENT OF WHATEVER PRESIDENT OBAMA AND CONGRESS WILL PROPOSE. POLITICAL STRATEGIST MATT BURKE TALKED WITH DOUG KELLETT, HOST OF THE MORNING DRIVE SHOW, ABOUT PRESIDENT OBAMA'S RECENT PUSH FOR GUN CONTROL. GA

JANUARY 11 – THE FISCAL CLIFF ORDEAL IS NOT OVER, IN FACT, SOME CLAIM THAT WE HAVE ACTUALLY GONE OVER THE CLIFF. THE DEAL MADE LAST WEEK ONLY DELAYED THE SEQUESTER UNTIL MARCH AND DID NOT ADDRESS THE GROWTH OF FEDERAL SPENDING. AS EMILY WISMER, POLICY ANALYST FOR THE INDEPENDENT WOMEN'S FORUM, TELLS BILL LUMAYE WE ARE QUICKLY RUNNING OUT OF TIME AND MONEY. GA

JANUARY 11 – PAT MCCRORY IS SWORN IN AND TAKES A TOUR OF THE THREE REGIONS OF THE STATE, COLLECTING GOOD HEADLINES, ADMIRERS AND LOCAL INTERVIEWS, BUILDING UP TO THE FORMAL INAUGURATION, PARADE AND BALLS. BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED TO SGRTODAY.COM'S BARLOW HERGET ABOUT THE NEW GOVERNOR. GA

JANUARY 11 – COMBINED WITH OBAMACARE, THE DEAL MADE BY CONGRESS AND PRESIDENT OBAMA IS BRINGING 13 TAX INCREASES FOR THIS YEAR. CURTIS DUBAY, POLICY ANALYST OF THE TAX POLICY FOR THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION, TALKED WITH BILL LUMAYE ABOUT WHAT EXACTLY WILL GO UP THIS YEAR. GA

JANUARY 11 – WITH LAWMAKERS GETTING BACK TO WORK, OFFICIALS WITH THE NORTH CAROLINA ZOO IN ASHEBORO WANT CHANGES MADE ALLOWING THEM TO ADJUST HOW THEY DO BUSINESS -- BRUCE FERRELL GOT THE DETAILS FROM SPOKESMAN ROD HACKNEY. GA

JANUARY 16 – A PROMINENT NORTH CAROLINA BUSINESS LEADER JOINED OTHER BUSINESSMEN IN THE NATION'S CAPITOL TO TALK ABOUT THE IMPACT OF TAX POLICIES. WPTF'S RICK MARTINEZ TALKED TO BOB LUDDY, THE PRESIDENT OF CAPTIVEAIRE SYSTEMS ABOUT HOW HIGH TAXES AFFECT JOB CREATION. GA

JANUARY 17 – PRESIDENT OBAMA ANNOUNCED SWEEPING GUN CONTROL MEASURES ON WEDNESDAY THAT INCLUDE AN ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN AND MANDATORY BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR ALL BUYERS. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO GOT REACTION FROM GAIL NEELY OF NORTH CAROLINIANS AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE. GA

JANUARY 22 – SOME PROMINENT NORTH CAROLINIANS ARE TAKING ON THE NATIONAL DEBT CRISIS. FORMER GLAXO SMITH KLINE CEO BOB INGRAM TELLS WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO WHY THEY'RE WORRIED ABOUT THE 17 TRILLION DOLLAR DEBT. GA

JANUARY 24 – DEMOCRATIC SEN. JOHN KERRY, ON A SMOOTH PATH TO CONFIRMATION AS SECRETARY OF STATE, IS LIKELY TO FACE FRIENDLY QUESTIONING WHEN HE TESTIFIES BEFORE THE COMMITTEE THAT HE'S SERVED ON FOR 28 YEARS AND LED FOR THE PAST FOUR. CBS POLITICAL ANALYST DOTTY LYNCH WENT IN DEPTH WITH BRIAN FREEMAN. GA

JANUARY 28 – THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO SEVERAL LARGE FINANCIAL FIRMS IN 2008 AND 2009 WAS VERY CONTROVERSIAL. SUPPORTERS SAID THE INVESTMENTS WOULD BE PAID BACK. HAVE THEY BEEN? N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN ANSWERS. GA

JANUARY 28 – THE STATE LEGISLATURE WILL ADDRESS THE POSSIBILITY TO LOWERING THE WEEKEND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT FROM \$500 TO \$350 A WEEK. WITH THAT THE ONE GROUP IS CHALLENGING THE GOVERNOR TO LIVE ON JUST \$350 A WEEK. BRIAN FREEMAN AND RICK MARTINEZ DISCUSSED WHY. GA

JANUARY 29 – IN A NEW YORK TIMES OP-ED, GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY CONSTITUTIONAL LAW PROFESSOR LOUIS MICHAEL SEIDMAN CALLED FOR POLITICIANS AND JUDGES TO ENGAGE IN "CONSTITUTIONAL DISOBEDIENCE" BY "GIVING UP THE CONSTITUTION". THIS STARTED A NEW DEBATE AFTER THE OP-ED AND HAS IGNITED A LOT OF REACTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC. JOINING THE DEBATE, MICHAEL CONNELLY, A CONSTITUTIONAL LAWYER, SHARES HIS OPINION WITH DOUG KELLETT OF THE MORNING DRIVE ABOUT THE RECENT COMMENTS MADE BY PROFESSOR SEIDMAN. GA

JANUARY 30 – STATE LAWMAKERS RETURN TO RALEIGH TODAY TO TAKE UP TOUGH ISSUES LIKE TAX REFORM, EDUCATION, AND REDUCING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO HAS A PREVIEW OF THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION AHEAD. GA

FEBRUARY 5 – LEGISLATION THAT WOULD CUT UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS FOR TENS OF THOUSANDS OF NORTH CAROLINIANS LOOKS SET TO SAIL THROUGH THE LEGISLATURE, AMID PROTESTS FROM THOSE WHO ADVOCATE FOR THE JOBLESS. AS WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO REPORTS, IT'S ALSO THE FIRST PRIORITY FOR GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY. GA

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FEBRUARY 5 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW--RANCOBLE,N.C. CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH--APPRAISAL OF THE NEW NORTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE- GA

FEBRUARY 6 – IN A RECENT ARTICLE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC NOTICE, GRETCHEN HAMEL URGES THE GOVERNMENT TO START REFORMING ENTITLEMENT PROGRAMS. THE BEST TIME TO ACT IS NOW WHILE THE BUDGET DEBATE IS GETTING UNDERWAY AND OBAMA IS BEGINNING HIS SECOND TERM AS PRESIDENT. SHE CHATS WITH BILL LUMAYE ON HER ARTICLE AND WHY SHE BELIEVES ENTITLEMENT PROGRAMS NEED REFORMATION. GA

FEBRUARY 8 – THE STRUGGLE BETWEEN TWO OF WAKE COUNTY'S GOVERNING BOARDS HAS ESCALATED TO THE POINT OF HIRING LOBBYISTS FOR THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND THE BOARD OF EDUCATION. EACH BOARD IS PLANNING TO SPEND TAX MONEY ON LOBBYISTS TO PRESS THEIR CASES AT THE STATE LEGISLATURE. DALLAS WOODHOUSE, STATE DIRECTOR FOR AMERICAN'S FOR PROSPERITY, NORTH CAROLINA, TELLS BILL LUMAYE WHY THESE ACTIONS ARE WASTING TAX DOLLARS. GA

FEBRUARY 11 – PRESIDENT OBAMA'S PICK TO HEAD THE CIA, JOHN BRENNAN, FACED A SENATE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE LAST THURSDAY. AT THE HEARING HE FACED QUESTIONS ON DRONES, TORTURE, AND THE KILLING OF AMERICAN CITIZENS SUSPECTED OF TERRORISM. SENATOR RICHARD BURR, WHO SPOKE AT THE HEARING, TELLS BILL LUMAYE THE DETAILS. GA

FEBRUARY 11 – A NEW AUDIT OF NORTH CAROLINA'S MEDICAID PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN MISMANAGED SPENDING. THE REPORT SHOWS MEDICAID SPENDING WENT OVER BUDGET LAST YEAR BY MORE THAN A MILLION DOLLARS. GOV. PAT MCCRORY HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE WITH STATE AUDITOR BETH WOOD POINTING AT THE PROBLEMS AS EXAMPLES OF BROKEN GOVERNMENT HE INTENDS TO FIX. RICK HENDERSON, MANAGING DIRECTOR FOR THE CAROLINA JOURNAL, CHATS WITH BILL LUMAYE ON THE AUDIT AND HOW THE SPENDING GOT OUT OF HAND. GA

FEBRUARY 14 – THE STATE'S NEW HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SECRETARY IS SPEAKING OUT ABOUT A CULTURE OF SLOPPINESS, INACCURACY, AND INATTENTION TO SPENDING. SECRETARY ALDONA WOS (AL-DOE-NUH VOSH) GAVE LEGISLATORS AN EARFUL AT A HEARING ON WEDNESDAY. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO REPORTS ON THE PROBLEMS SHE HAS UNCOVERED, AND THE IMPACT THEY MAY HAVE ON SERVICES FOR NORTH CAROLINA RESIDENTS. GA

FEBRUARY 15 – CALL IT GROWING PAINS, BUT TWO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAVE MADE NEWS FOR TWO DIFFERENT REASONS. BRIAN FREEMAN GOT DETAILS FROM BARLOW HERGET AT SGRTODAY.COM ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO DIANNA LIGHTFOOT AND TO DOT SECRETARY TONY TATA. GA

FEBRUARY 15 – FORMER PRICE IS RIGHT GAME SHOW HOST HAS WRITTEN A LETTER TO S NORTH CAROLINA STATE SENATOR SAYING THAT HE DOESN'T SUPPORT A BILL THAT WANTS TO PRESERVE THE ANNUAL "POSSUM DROP" NEWS YEAR'S EVE IN BRASSTOWN. BRIAN

FREEMAN TALKED TO RICK MARTINEZ ABOUT WHAT BOB BARKER HAD TO SAY IN THE LETTER. GA

FEBRUARY 15 – ACCORDING TO A NEW REPORT FROM THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION, AMERICA IS ON A DANGEROUS BUDGET PATH AND IF IT CONTINUES DOWN THE PATH THE HIGH DEBT WILL WEAKEN THE ECONOMY AND HURT AMERICANS' POCKETS. ROMINA BOCCIA (BAH-CHA), RESEARCH COORDINATOR FOR THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION, TELLS MITCH KOKAI, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR AT THE JOHN LOCKE FOUNDATION, SITTING IN FOR BILL LUMAYE, JUST HOW DEEP THE DEBT IS IN OUR POCKETS ALREADY. GA

FEBRUARY 19 – GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY DELIVERED HIS FIRST STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS MONDAY NIGHT, CALLING IT A SOBERING ASSESSMENT OF STATE GOVERNMENT. HERE ARE SOME OF THE COMMENTS MCCRORY MADE ABOUT THE PRIORITIES HE WILL TACKLE AS GOVERNOR. GA

FEBRUARY 19 – LEGISLATION IS MOVING THROUGH THE STATE SENATE THAT WOULD LEGALIZE PAYDAY LENDING IN NORTH CAROLINA. HOUSE BILL 89 PASSED IT'S FIRST READING ON FEBRUARY 14TH AND HAS BEEN REFERRED TO A COMMERCE COMMITTEE FOR REVIEW. PAYDAY LENDERS WERE CHASED OUT OF NORTH CAROLINA IN 2006, AND STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL ROY COOPER TELLS WPTF'S JOSH ZACH THAT LETTING THEM RETURN WOULD BE A MISTAKE. GA

FEBRUARY 20 – SOME NEW RULES WILL BE IN PLACE FOR A GUN SHOW THIS WEEKEND AT THE STATE FAIRGROUNDS AFTER AN INCIDENT IN JANUARY -- WHERE A GUN ACCIDENTALLY DISCHARGED. BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH STATE AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN BRIAN LONG. GA

FEBRUARY 20 – A MEASURE THAT WOULD PREVENT ANYONE UNDER 18 FROM USING INDOOR TANNING BEDS HAS HIT A ROADBLOCK IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. AS WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO REPORTS, LEGISLATORS SAY THEY NEED MORE TIME TO STUDY THE SCIENCE BEHIND SKIN CANCER. GA

FEBRUARY 22 – GOVERNOR MCCRORY THIS WEEK SIGNED THE LEGISLATURE'S BILL TO PAY BACK \$2.5 BILLION IN FEDERAL LOANS FOR NC JOBLESS BENEFITS. ABOUT 80,000 UNEMPLOYED WORKERS WILL SEE THEIR JOBLESS CHECK CUT ON AVERAGE BY A THIRD AND FOR FEWER WEEKS. BRIAN FREEMAN LOOKS AT WHAT THIS MEANS FOR THE NEW GOVERNOR WITH BARLOW HERGET FROM SGRTODAY.COM. GA

FEBRUARY 25 – IT WAS A BUSY WEEK IN THE STATE CAPITOL, WITH GOVERNOR MCCRORY DELIVERING THE STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS AND SIGNING HIS FIRST TWO BILLS INTO LAW. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TOOK UP TOPICS THAT INCLUDE MEDICAL MARIJUANA, TOPLESS PROTESTS, THE POSSUM DROP, AND A BAN ON TANNING. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO HAS THE WEEK IN REVIEW. GA

FEBRUARY 25 – ON MARCH 1, \$85 BILLION IN ACROSS-THE-BOARD FEDERAL SPENDING CUTS, ALSO KNOWN AS THE SEQUESTER, ARE SET TO BEGIN, PROMPTED BY A 2011 LAW DESIGNED TO REDUCE THE GOVERNMENT'S BUDGET DEFICIT. IF CONGRESS DOESN'T COME TO A DEAL, THESE CUTS WILL TAKE PLACE. ROB SCHOFIELD, POLICY DIRECTOR FOR NC POLICY WATCH, SITS DOWN WITH BILL LUMAYE ABOUT HOW SERIOUS THESE CUTS REALLY ARE. GA

FEBRUARY 26 – NORTH CAROLINA LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR DAN FOREST HAS A FEW WEEKS OF GOVERNANCE UNDER HIS BELT AND HE TELLS WPTF'S RICK MARTINEZ THE MANAGERIAL NEGLIGENCE IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH IS NOT AS BAD AS HE ONCE THOUGHT. IT'S WORSE. GA

FEBRUARY 26 – IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT A WOMAN WITH TWO KIDS MAKING \$19,000 A YEAR WAS FOUND GETTING \$82,000 A YEAR IN GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE... SO NOW THE QUESTION IS SHOULD ANYONE BE RECEIVING THIS MUCH GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE FROM

TAX PAYERS? MATT BURKE, A LAWYER FROM MATT BURKE.COM, JOINS MORNING DRIVE HOST DOUG KELLETT TO EXPLAIN THE ISSUE AND GIVES HIS OPINION ABOUT THE SITUATION. GA

FEBRUARY 26 – NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS WHO ARE ALREADY BEING SQUEEZED BY DWINDLING DONATIONS ARE FACING A NEW CHALLENGE. LEGISLATORS ARE CONSIDERING TAX REFORMS THAT COULD EVEN DO AWAY WITH YOUR DEDUCTION FOR CHARITABLE GIVING. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO HAS THE STORY. GA

FEBRUARY 26 – SEQUESTRATION HITS IN JUST THREE DAYS AND WITH THE NUMBER OF MILITARY BASES WE HAVE HERE IN NORTH CAROLINA WE MAY SEE SEVERE CUTS IN DEFENSE SPENDING. BRIAN FREEMAN SPOKE TO CBS MILITARY CONSULTANT MAJOR MIKE LYONS ABOUT WHAT WE CAN EXPECT HERE IN OUR STATE. GA

FEBRUARY 27 – LIMITING THE NUMBER OF AMMUNITION IN MAGAZINES, GUN BUYBACK'S, ASSAULT WEAPON BANDS, EXPERTS SAY THESE MIGHT NOT EVEN WORK... SO THE QUESTION IS "TO CONFISCATE, OR NOT TO CONFISCATE." NEIL MCCABE, EDITOR OF GUNS IN PATRIOTS AT HUMAN EVENTS.COM, STOPS BY THE MORNING DRIVE W/ DOUG KELLETT GO TO SHED SOME LIGHT ON THE ISSUE. GA

FEBRUARY 28 – THE SUPREME COURT IS WRESTLING WITH THE FATE OF A SECTION OF A LANDMARK CIVIL RIGHTS LAW THAT HAS HELPED MILLIONS OF AMERICANS EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT TO VOTE. MORE FROM WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN. GA

FEBRUARY 28 – A MAN IS FINALLY GETTING SOME ATTENTION AFTER HE HAS FILED LAWSUIT AFTER LAWSUIT CONCERNING THE GUN LAW CHANGES AND SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS. THIS INCLUDES EVERYTHING FROM CONCEALED CARRY LAWS TO THE LIABILITY THAT THE FIREARMS INDUSTRY COULD FACE IF THEIR PRODUCTS CAUSE HARM. BOB NUMBERS, ATTORNEY & CHAIR OF THE RALEIGH CHAPTER OF THE FEDERALIST SOCIETY, CHATS WITH BILL LUMAYE ON HOW THE SUPREME COURT IS FACING THESE LAWSUITS. GA

MARCH 1 – A TAX CREDIT THAT'S MEANT TO HELP THE WORKING POOR COULD BE ON THE CHOPPING BLOCK AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TELLS US ABOUT CASE FOR AND AGAINST THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT. GA

MARCH 4 – FROM AN OVERHAUL OF STATE GOVERNMENT TO TAX REFORM AND SEX TRAFFICKING LAWS, IT WAS A BUSY WEEK IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO LOOKS AT THE WEEK IN REVIEW. GA

MARCH 4 – A REDESIGNED SPECIALTY PLATE HAS BEEN RELEASED TO HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR THE SOLDIERS & AIRMEN ASSISTANCE FUND, WHICH PROVIDES GRANTS FOR MEMBERS OF THE AIR AND ARMY NATIONAL GUARD COPING WITH UNUSUAL OR UNPREVENTABLE HARDSHIPS. BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH DIRECTOR DENNIS ROACH ABOUT THE PLATE. GA

MARCH 4 – AS WASHINGTON BICKERS OVER RAISING TAXES, NORTH CAROLINA HAS JOINED A GROWING LIST OF STATES MOVING IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION BY CONSIDERING THE ELIMINATE OF THE STATE INCOME TAX ALTOGETHER. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH FINANCE AND BUSINESS EXPERT CHUCK GALLAGHER TO DISCUSS WHAT THE ODDS ARE THAT NORTH CAROLINA COULD JOIN THE RANKS OF FLORIDA, NEVADA AND SEVEN OTHER STATES WHICH DON'T IMPOSE A STATE INCOME TAX. GA

MARCH 5 – SOME RELIGIOUS AND POLITICAL LEADERS ARE OUTRAGED OVER A PLAN TO PUT A PINK STRIPE ON THE DRIVER'S LICENSES OF IMMIGRANTS WHO ARE PROTECTED FROM DEPORTATION. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO HAS THE STORY. GA

MARCH 5 – RALEIGH'S MAYOR DELIVERED THE 'STATE OF THE CITY' ADDRESS IN DOWNTOWN MONDAY... MAYOR NANCY MCFARLANE PUT A SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON FUNDING MASS TRANSIT FOR THE CITY'S FUTURE... WPTF'S PATRICK JOHNSON WAS AT THE ADDRESS AT THE CONVENTION CENTER. GA

MARCH 5 – NICKELODEON HAS STARTED A NEW SPECIAL CALLED FOCUSING ON THE ISSUE OF HYDRAULIC FRACTURING OR FRACKING. KIDS SHARE THEIR THOUGHTS ON THEIR THOUGHTS ON THIS ISSUE IN THE NICK NEWS WITH LINDA ELLERBEE'S HALF-HOUR SPECIAL "WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH FRACKING?" NICK NEWS IS THE LONGEST-RUNNING KIDS' NEWS SHOW IN TELEVISION HISTORY. IT HAS BUILT ITS REPUTATION ON THE DIRECT WAY IT SPEAKS TO KIDS ABOUT THE IMPORTANT ISSUES OF THE DAY. EMILY WISMER (WHIZ-MER), POLICY ANALYST OF THE INDEPENDENT WOMEN'S FORUM, TALKS WITH BILL LUMAYE ABOUT THIS NEW PROGRAM AND WHAT WAS PRESENTED TO KIDS ABOUT FRACKING. GA

MARCH 5 – THE LATEST POLL FROM ELON UNIVERSITY ASKED NORTH CAROLINIANS HOW THEY FEEL ABOUT GUN CONTROL, IMMIGRATION REFORM, AND VOTER ID. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TALKED TO POLL DIRECTOR KEITH FERNANDEZ ABOUT WHAT THEY LEARNED. GA

MARCH 6 – U.S. SENATOR FROM NORTH CAROLINA -- KAY HAGAN -- IS INTRODUCING A BIPARTISAN BILL THAT ADDRESSES THE SKILLS GAP IN THE STATE AND AIMS TO PUT NORTH CAROLINIANS BACK TO WORK. HAGAN HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE CALL TUESDAY MORNING TO DISCUSS THE AMERICA WORKS ACT: HERE'S SOME OF WHAT HAGAN HAD TO SAY ABOUT THE LEGISLATION. GA

MARCH 6 – GOV. PAT MCCRORY HAS APPROVED THE DECISION TO ISSUE SPECIALLY DESIGNED LICENSES TO IMMIGRANTS ALLOWED TO STAY IN THE U.S. UNDER THE FEDERAL DEFERRED ACTION PROGRAM. AND HE HAS SAID HE SUPPORTS THE IDEA OF VOTER ID TO PREVENT VOTER FRAUD AND WOULD PREFER THEM TO HAVE A PHOTO ID. JAY DELANCY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF VOTER INTEGRITY PROJECT IN NC, TALKS WITH BILL LUMAY ABOUT THE LETTER HIS GROUP SENT TO GOV. MCCRORY CONCERNING THE SPECIAL LICENSES FOR IMMIGRANTS AND ABOUT DISCOVERING FRAUD IN VOTING POLLS. GA

MARCH 6 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW-DAVID KIRKMAN AND MARGITA HARRISON, CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION N.C. ATTORNEY-GENERAL'-ON "ELDERFRAUD"-GA

MARCH 7 – STARTING ON MARCH 25, THE NORTH CAROLINA DMV WILL BEGIN ISSUING YOUNG IMMIGRANTS WITH DRIVER'S LICENSES THAT HAVE A BOLD PINK STRIPE WITH THE WORDS "NO LAWFUL STATUS" IN BOLD RED. SOME LAWMAKERS ARE VYING TO HAVE A BILL TO BAR THE DMV FROM GRANTING THE LICENSES AT LEAST UNTIL JUNE. RABBI JOHN FRIEDMAN OF THE JUDEA REFORM CONGREGATION IN DURHAM, TALKS WITH BILL LUMAYE WHY HE FEEL SO PASSIONATELY AGAINST THESE LICENSES. GA

MARCH 7 – BIG CHANGES COULD BE IN STORE FOR THE STATE LOTTERY...FROM THE WAY THE ODDS ARE PRESENTED TO WHAT THE GAMES ARE CALLED. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TELLS US ABOUT THE "HONEST LOTTERY ACT". GA

MARCH 8 – IT MAY HAVE SLIPPED BY YOU...NEW LEGISLATION ADOPTED BY SENATE WILL OPEN UP COASTAL COUNTIES FOR DUMPING FRACKING WASTE WATER. SGRTODAY.COM'S BARLOW HERGET HAS BEEN FOLLOWING THE STORY AND GAVE BRIAN FREEMAN DETAILS. GA

MARCH 11 – A MAJOR JOBS ANNOUNCEMENT...CONTROVERSY OVER DRIVER'S LICENSES...AND A CRACKDOWN ON THE STATE LOTTERY. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO HAS THOSE STORIES IN THIS WEEK'S LEGISLATIVE REVIEW. GA

MARCH 11 – OPPOSITION GROUPS TO LEGISLATION THAT WOULD REQUIRE ANYONE WANTING TO VOTE IN NORTH CAROLINA TO HAVE PHOTO IDENTIFICATION ARE LINING UP. WPTF'S

PATRICK JOHNSON TALKED TO ONE OF THEM, DEMOCRACY NORTH CAROLINA'S BOB HALL. GA

MARCH 11 – ONE IN FIVE FEDERAL PROGRAMS FAIL AND IT COST EACH AMERICAN HOUSEHOLD \$31-THOUSAND. BRIAN FREEMAN GOT DETAILS FROM THE WASHINGTON EXAMINER'S PAUL BEDARD. GA

MARCH 13 – REPUBLICAN LEADERS WHO ASKED FOR INPUT ON VOTER ID LAWS GOT AN EARFUL FROM CRITICS ON TUESDAY. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO REPORTS ON A CROWDED PUBLIC HEARING ON A CONTROVERSIAL AND DIVISIVE ISSUE. GA

MARCH 13 – SENATOR KAY HAGAN HAS RE-INTRODUCED LEGISLATION TO ENSURE THAT TAXPAYER DOLLARS INVESTED IN FEDERAL ASSISTANCE FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS IS BEING USED TO EDUCATE AND SUPPORT STUDENTS, NOT BEING WASTED ON ADVERTISING, MARKETING AND RECRUITMENT. HAGAN DISCUSSED THE BILL DURING A PRESS CONFERENCE CALL TUESDAY. GA

MARCH 14 – THE STATE HOUSE BILL LIMITING THE NORTH CAROLINA EDUCATION LOTTERY'S ADVERTISING AND REQUIRING THE LOTTERY TO LIST ODDS OF WINNING A TOP PRIZE IS TAKING SHAPE IN COMMITTEE MEETINGS. (WPTF'S) PATRICK JOHNSON IS AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND TALKED TO STATE HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER SKIP STAM ABOUT TWO PROPOSED AMENDMENTS. GA

MARCH 18 – MILITARY TUITION ASSISTANCE IS AMONG THE MANY FEDERAL PROGRAMS PUT ON THE CHOPPING BLOCK AS A RESULT OF SEQUESTRATION. TALKRADIO 850'S BILL LUMAYE TALKED WITH NORTH CAROLINA SENATOR KAY HAGAN TO FIND OUT WHAT THE TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IS AND HOW THESE CUTS WILL AFFECT THOSE IN THE MILITARY. GA

MARCH 18 – RALEIGH MAYOR NANCY MCFARLANE IS EXPRESSING HER DISAPPOINTMENT OVER A BILL THAT WOULD UNDO THE DEAL THE CITY SIGNED TO TURN THE DOROTHEA DIX PROPERTY INTO A DESTINATION PARK. SHE TALKED TO WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO ABOUT WHAT THE CITY'S NEXT STEPS ARE. GA

MARCH 20 – THE WAKE COUNTY MAYOR'S ASSOCIATION SPOKE OUT MONDAY AGAINST A BILL THAT WOULD LIMIT CITY AND TOWN LEADERS' AUTHORITY TO CONTROL HOME APPEARANCE AND DESIGN. REPRESENTATIVE NELSON DOLLAR, A SPONSOR OF THE BILL, SPEAKS WITH BILL LUMAYE ON WHY HE SUPPORTS THIS BILL AND WHAT THE MAYORS ARE SAYING ABOUT IT. GA

MARCH 21 – GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY UNVEILED HIS \$20.6 BILLION BUDGET WEDNESDAY AND SAYS THERE WILL BE NO HEDGING WITH THE NUMBERS. GA

MARCH 21 – THE BILL THAT TOSSES OUT RALEIGH'S LEASE ON THE DOROTHEA DIX PROPERTY, FILED BY REPUBLICAN LEGISLATORS LAST WEEK, GETS ITS FIRST COMMITTEE HEARING THURSDAY BEFORE A SENATE APPROPRIATIONS PANEL. RALEIGH MAYOR NANCY MCFARLANE SAID THE AGREEMENT SHOULDN'T BE UP FOR DEBATE THREE MONTHS AFTER IT WAS SIGNED. PERRY WOODS, DEMOCRATIC CONSULTANT AND JOE BYRAN, WAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONER, DISCUSS WHETHER THE STATE IS WRONG TO RE-EXAMINE THE DIX HILL LAND LEASE WITH RALEIGH. GA

MARCH 25 – GOVERNOR MCCRORY ANNOUNCES HIS 20 BILLION DOLLAR BUDGET...LAWMAKERS VOTE TO UNDO THE DOROTHEA DIX DEAL...AND A SENATE LEADERS SPELLS OUT A PLAN TO IMPROVE THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO LOOKS AT THE STORIES THAT MADE NEWS LAST WEEK IN THE CAPITOL. GA

MARCH 25 – TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS HAVE BACKED DOWN FROM A PLAN TO ISSUE DRIVER'S LICENSES WITH A PROMINENT PINK STRIPE TO YOUNG IMMIGRANTS WHO QUALIFY FOR A FEDERAL PROGRAM THAT DELAYS DEPORTATION FOR TWO YEARS. THE PHRASE "NO LAWFUL STATUS" REMAINS BUT THE WORDS "LEGAL PRESENCE" HAVE BEEN ADDED. THESE LICENSES WILL BE ISSUED TODAY. RAUL PINTO, STAFF ATTORNEY AT THE ACLU OF NORTH CAROLINA, GIVES HIS REACTION TO BILL LUMAYE ON THE LICENSES DROPPING THE PINK STRIPE. GA

MARCH 26 – MEMBERS OF THE WAKE LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION GOT AN EARFUL MONDAY FROM SUPPORTERS OF A PLAN TO CONVERT THE OLD DOROTHEA DIX MENTAL HOSPITAL PROPERTY INTO A HUGE PUBLIC PARK. ABC 11'S FRED SHROPSHIRE TELLS US WHAT THE SUPPORTERS LACKED IN NUMBERS THEY MADE UP FOR WITH PASSION. GA

MARCH 26 – ADVOCATES OF REFORMING THE FEDERAL AND STATE TAX CODES ARE HOPING SPECTACLE CALLS ATTENTION TO A SERIOUS ISSUE... WPTF'S PATRICK JOHNSON EXPLAINS. GA

MARCH 26 – MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED PEOPLE PACKED A HEARING ROOM AND SPILLED INTO A HALLWAY ON MONDAY AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THEY GAVE LAWMAKERS AN EARFUL ABOUT EFFORTS TO UNDO THE DOROTHEA DIX PARK DEAL, AND TO MAKE MAJOR CHANGES IN THE WAKE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO HAS THE DETAILS. GA

MARCH 27 – SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADERS MOVED FORWARD WITH LEGISLATION TO THROW OUT THE LEASE THAT LETS RALEIGH BUILD A PARK ON THE OLD DOROTHEA DIX MENTAL HOSPITAL CAMPUS. SUPPORTERS SAY IT WAS A BAD DEAL FROM THE START AND AS ABC 11'S JON CAMP TELLS US THE OPPONENTS SAY THE STATE IS BREAKING A CONTRACT AND MISSING OUT ON A GREAT DEAL. GA

MARCH 27 – TWO MAJOR CASES ON GAY MARRIAGE ARE BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT. PROFESSOR GREG WALLACE OF CAMPBELL LAW GAVE BRANDON DICKSON HIS TAKE ON TUESDAY'S ORAL ARGUMENTS ON CALIFORNIA'S PROPOSITION 8, AND GAVE A PREVIEW OF TODAY'S ARGUMENTS ON THE DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT. GA

MARCH 28 – DURING THE WEEK THAT THE SUPREME REVIEWS CASES ON SAME-SEX MARRIAGE, U.S. SENATOR KAY HAGAN MADE A STATEMENT YESTERDAY SAYING SHE SUPPORTS GAY MARRIAGE. ABC 11'S JOEL BROWN REPORTS THAT HAGAN VOICED HER OPINION ON FACEBOOK. GA

MARCH 28 – THE STATE SENATE APPROVED VOIDING RALEIGH'S LEASE OF THE FORMER DOROTHEA DIX SITE TO CALL THE CITY TO PAY MORE FOR A SMALLER PIECE OF THE PARK. PERRY WOODS, DEMOCRATIC CONSULTANT, DEBATES WITH JOHN HOOD, PRESIDENT OF THE JOHN LOCKE FOUNDATION ON AN ARTICLE THAT HOOD WROTE THAT DISAGREES WITH THE FORMER DEAL. GA

MARCH 28 – HE'S BEEN IN OFFICE FOR ABOUT THREE MONTHS, AND THE LATEST HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY POLL IS GIVING GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY HIGH MARKS -- BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH POLL DIRECTOR MARTIN KIFER. GA

MARCH 29 – DUE TO THE BUDGET CUTS KNOWN AS THE SEQUESTER, THE AIRBORNE AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS MUSEUM IN FAYETTEVILLE WILL CLOSED FOUR DAYS OF THE WEEK. WTVD TV'S GREG BARNES REPORTS ON THE REACTION. GA

MARCH 29 – ON THE HEELS OF GOV. MCCRORY'S ANNOUNCED LAST WEEK TO CLEARING HOUSE TO EXAMINE THE BEST SCHOOL SECURITY PROGRAMS, THE NORTH CAROLINA HOUSE ENDORSED PUBLIC SCHOOL SAFETY BILL, THURSDAY, TO FURTHER BOLSTER THE PROTECTION STUDENTS AND SCHOOL PERSONNEL. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH THE DR.

JUNE ATKINSON -- THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION -- FOR HER REACTION TO THE MEASURE. GA

MARCH 29 -- A DISPUTE OVER NEGOTIATING REIMBURSEMENT RATES IS PITTING LEGISLATORS AGAINST THE STATE'S LARGEST HEALTH INSURANCE COMPANY. WTPF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TELLS US WHY BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD IS IN THE HOT SEAT. GA

MARCH 29 -- THE STATE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE APPROVED A BILL TO RESUME DEATH PENALTY EXECUTIONS AND TO REPEAL REMNANTS OF RACIAL JUSTICE ACT. BRIAN FREEMAN WENT IN DEPTH WITH BARLOW HERGET FROM SGRTODAY.COM. GA

GR - Growth/Transportation/Roads

JANUARY 17 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW -THOMAS OWEN OF TAO AUTO TALKS CARS AND CAR PROBLEMS -- GR

JANUARY 17 -- WAKE-UP WAKE COUNTY, A NONPARTISAN GROUP OF CITIZENS CONCERNED ABOUT THE FUTURE OF WAKE COUNTY, ARE DISCUSSING PLANS OF TRANSPORTATION, DRINKING WATER, AND ADDING MORE SCHOOLS IN THE AREA. THEY WILL HAVE A MEETING TONIGHT AT 7PM AT THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF RALEIGH.KAREN RINDGE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF WAKE-UP WAKE COUNTY, TALKS WITH BILL LUMAYE ON THE ADDING OF A COMMUTER RAIL LINE. GR

JANUARY 18 -- WE'RE WAKING UP THIS MORNING TO A LITTLE BIT OF SNOW OUTSIDE. SOME AREAS GOT MORE THAN OTHERS, AND WHILE THE RALEIGH AREA DIDN'T RECEIVE MUCH ACCUMULATION, THERE'S STILL A CONCERN FOR TRAVEL ... TEMPERATURES WILL DROP BELOW FREEZING BEFORE THE SUN COMES UP, AND THAT WILL CREATE THE THREAT OF BLACK ICE ON THE ROADS. FOR A COMPREHENSIVE LOOK AT THE BLIZZARD OF '13, WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH METEOROLOGIST BRANDON DUNSTIN AT THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN RALEIGH. GR

JANUARY 18 -- NEW FIGURES, RELEASED THURSDAY, SHOW RALEIGH DURHAM INT'L AIRPORT EXPERIENCED SLIGHT GROWTH IN 2011 AND 2012. SLIGHT -- IT'S BECOMING A TREND AT AIRPORTS NATIONALLY, AND GLOBALLY. WPTF'S MARLA ROTH SPOKE TO RDU SPOKESPERSON MINDY HAMLIN TO FIND OUT WHAT THIS MEANS FOR THE INDUSTRY, AND FOR RDU'S ECONOMIC OUTLOOK. GR

JANUARY 24 -- THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY IS REMINDING DRIVERS OF ITS "MOVE OVER LAW---" IT'S A LAW DESIGNED TO KEEP MOTORISTS ALERT OF ALL EMERGENCY VEHICLES ON THE SIDES OF HIGHWAYS AND INTERSTATES. MARLA ROTH SPOKE WITH FIRST SERGEANT JEFF GORDON. GR

FEBRUARY 6 -- NEW GUIDELINES HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE STATE'S DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES CONCERNING LICENSES FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT CHILDREN. THE DMV WILL NOW ONLY ACCEPT VALID LICENSES FROM OTHER STATES, SOCIAL SECURITY CARDS, VALID IMMIGRATION PAPERS AND STATE VEHICLE REGISTRATION OR TITLE CERTIFICATES. IDS ISSUED BY THE MEXICAN CONSULATE WILL NO LONGER BE ACCEPTED. PATRICK HATCH, A IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY, TALKS WITH BILL LUMAYE ON HOW THIS PUTS DREAM ACT CHILDREN IN LIMBO OVER LICENSES. GR

FEBRUARY 7 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW--DEAN BAILEY AND DON GRIFFIN, LOCAL GARAGE OWNERS ANSWER CAR REPAIR QUESTIONS- GR

FEBRUARY 7 -- THIS IS PRESS DAY FOR THE 105TH CHICAGO AUTO SHOW, WHICH IS DESCRIBED AS NORTH AMERICA'S BIGGEST. GENERAL MOTORS IS FOLLOWING THE

VOLKSWAGEN PLAYBOOK BY BRINGING A DIESEL-POWERED SMALL CAR FROM EUROPE TO THE UNITED STATES. THE AUTOMAKER WILL INTRODUCE THE DIESEL VERSION OF THE CHEVROLET CRUZE COMPACT TODAY AT THE CHICAGO AUTO SHOW. CBS REPORTER JEFF GILBERT IS AT THE CHICAGO AUTO SHOW AND TALK WITH BRIAN FREEMAN. GR

FEBRUARY 12 – IN PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA A JOINT COAST GUARD-NTSB SAFETY PANEL TODAY OPENS A HEARING ON THE SINKING OF THE HMS BOUNTY OFF CAPE HATTERAS DURING HURRICANE SANDY. THE BOUNTY WAS A REPLICA OF THE 18TH CENTURY TALL SHIP BUILT FOR THE 1962 FILM "MUTINY ON THE BOUNTY." 14 CREW MEMBERS WERE RESCUED, BUT TWO OTHERS, INCLUDING THE CAPTAIN, PERISHED. CORRESPONDENT JIM KRASULA GAVE DETAILS OF WHAT WILL BE HEARD, TO BRIAN FREEMAN. GR

FEBRUARY 14 – AMERICAN AIRLINES AND US AIRWAYS WILL BE FORMALLY ANNOUNCING THEIR MERGER TODAY. THE DEAL CAPS A TURBULENT HALF-DECADE OF BANKRUPTCIES AND CONSOLIDATION FOR THE U.S. AIRLINE INDUSTRY. THE MERGER WILL CREATE THE WORLD'S BIGGEST AIRLINE, WHICH WILL KEEP THE AMERICAN AIRLINES NAME, BUT WILL BE RUN BY US AIRWAYS CEO DOUG PARKER. CBS REPORTER JOE GOMEZ TALKED TO BRIAN FREEMAN ABOUT WHAT THIS MEANS FOR AIR TRAVELERS HERE IN RALEIGH. GR

FEBRUARY 22 – THERE ARE CHANGES COMING TO RALEIGH-DURHAM INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, FROM NEW EATERIES TO SOME NEW LEADERS. BRIAN FREEMAN GETS DETAILS FROM DALE GIBSON AT THE TRIANGLE BUSINESS JOURNAL. GR

MARCH 4 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW-THOMAS OWEN OF TAO AUTO-AUTO REPAIR PROBLEMS-GR

MARCH 19 – TWO FORT BRAGG SOLDIERS WERE KILLED AND TWO OTHERS WERE INJURED IN A TWO-CAR CRASH THURSDAY EVENING IN FAYETTEVILLE. FAYETTEVILLE POLICE LT. CHRIS DAVIS SAID THE TWO SOLDIERS MAY HAVE BEEN RACING WITH ANOTHER CAR. ABC11'S GREG BARNES TALKED WITH ONE OF THE SURVIVORS OF THE CRASH. GR

MARCH 19 – TWO FORT BRAGG SOLDIERS WERE KILLED AND TWO OTHERS WERE INJURED IN A TWO-CAR CRASH THURSDAY EVENING IN FAYETTEVILLE. FAYETTEVILLE POLICE LT. CHRIS DAVIS SAID THE TWO SOLDIERS MAY HAVE BEEN RACING WITH ANOTHER CAR. ABC11'S GREG BARNES TALKED WITH ONE OF THE SURVIVORS OF THE CRASH. GR

MARCH 22 – WITH REVENUE FROM THE STATE GAS TAX FALLING IN NORTH CAROLINA, OUR NEIGHBOR TO THE NORTH HAS TAKEN A BOLD -- AND CONTROVERSIAL STEP -- TO FUND ROAD AND BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION -- ON WEDNESDAY'S TOM KEARNEY SHOW --- TOM TALKED ABOUT THAT MOVE WITH N C STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN. GR

HO – Housing

JANUARY 10 – THERE IS STILL A LARGE NUMBER OF HOMEOWNERS WHO OWE MORE ON THEIR HOME THAN ITS MARKET VALUE. ONE IDEA BEING KICKED AROUND TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM IS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO BUY NEGATIVE EQUITY HOMES, THROUGH EMINENT DOMAIN, AND SELL IT BACK TO THE OWNER AT A LOWER PRICE. ONE OF THE PROponents OF THIS IDEA IS FORMER NORTH CAROLINA CONGRESSMAN BRAD MILLER WHO TOLD A FORUM TUESDAY, THE PLAN HAS WORKED BEFORE. HO

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JANUARY 29 – NEXT WEEK (FEB. 4-6), BANK OF AMERICA WILL HOST A LOAN MODIFICATION EVENT IN RALEIGH TO MEET HOMEOWNERS FACE-TO-FACE AND DISCUSS FORECLOSURE AVOIDANCE SOLUTIONS. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH ROGER BRAGGS -- BOA'S VICE PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL MORTGAGE OUTREACH -- WHO OFFERED SOME PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR AREA HOMEOWNERS IN ADVANCE OF THE EVENT. HO

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FEBRUARY 14 – THE HOUSING MARKET REGISTERED SIGNIFICANT GAINS IN 2012, CAUSING MANY TO PROCLAIM THAT HOUSING HAS TURNED THE CORNER AND WILL CONTINUE TO IMPROVE. BUT WHAT MIGHT BE LURKING IN THE ECONOMY THAT COULD DERAIL THIS OPTIMISTIC FORECAST? N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN RESPONDS. HO

MARCH 7 – NORTH CAROLINA'S INSURANCE COMMISSIONER WAYNE GOODWIN REACHED A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT, THIS WEEK, WITH HOMEOWNER INSURANCE COMPANIES WHO, IN 2012, REQUESTED A STATEWIDE AVERAGE RATE INCREASE OF NEARLY 18 PERCENT. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH GOODWIN TO FIND OUT THE DETAILS OF THE SETTLEMENT, AND WHAT NORTH CAROLINA HOMEOWNERS CAN EXPECT WHEN THE INCREASE TAKES EFFECT, BEGINNING JULY 1ST. HO

MARCH 14 – IT SEEMS BOTH THE HOUSING MARKET SALES AND PRICES HAVE BEEN RISING IN THE RECENT MONTHS BUT, AS N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN EXPLAINS, THE IMPROVEMENT HASN'T BEEN SIMILAR ACROSS THE COUNTRY. HO

MARCH 14 – GOOD NEWS APPEARS TO BE ON THE WAY FOR THE HOUSING MARKET. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH EARL LEE, THE PRESIDENT OF PRUDENTIAL REAL ESTATE, TO GET THE LATEST, INCLUDING THE OUTLOOK FOR HOME SALES IN NORTH CAROLINA. HO

HSM – Health, Safety and Medical Affairs

JANUARY 2 – BUDGET-CONSCIOUS SHOPPERS LIKE THE WORD “COUPON,” BUT WHEN IT COMES TO PRESCRIPTION PHARMACEUTICALS, COUPONS COULD ACTUALLY INFLATE THE PRICE. TRIANGLE BUSINESS JOURNAL WRITER JASON DEBRUYN TELLS RICK MARTINEZ WHAT AFFECT COUPONING HAS AT THE DRUG STORE, AND THE MEASURES BEING TAKEN BY INSURERS TO FIGHT THE MOVE. HSM

JANUARY 4 – STARTING THIS YEAR, THE AMERICAN BEVERAGE ASSOCIATION IS LAUNCHING ITS CALORIES COUNT PROGRAM WITH COCA-COLA AND PEPSICO, WHERE NEW VENDING MACHINES WILL DISPLAY HOW MANY CALORIES ARE IN SOFT DRINKS SOLD IN THOSE MACHINES. THE PROGRAM IS FIRST ROLLING OUT IN A FEW CITIES, THEN GOING NATION-WIDE. THE MOVE COMES AMID CRITICISM OF SUGARY SODAS AND THEIR LINK TO OBESITY. HSM

JANUARY 4 – YOUR LOCAL WEATHER FORECASTER MIGHT BE GIVING YOU HEALTH PREDICTIONS SOMEDAY, ALONG WITH POLLUTION LEVELS AND POLLEN COUNTS. CBS NEWS CORRESPONDENT BARRY BAGNATO SAYS MEDICAL SCIENTISTS ARE WORKING ON WAYS TO ADAPT WEATHER FORECASTING MODELS TO ILLNESS TRENDS. HSM

JANUARY 8 – THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION HAS MADE AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING FOOD SAFETY. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH MICHAEL TAYLOR, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR FOODS AND VETERINARY MEDICINE, ABOUT WHAT THE ANNOUNCEMENT ENTAILS AND WHY IT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU. HSM

JANUARY 8 – A NEW STUDY BY U-N-C HOSPITALS HAS FOUND THAT SOME BRAIN CHANGES THAT ARE FOUND IN ADULTS THAT ARE LINKED TO DISORDERS SUCH AS: ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE, SCHIZOPHRENIA, AND AUTISM CAN ALSO BE SEEN IN THE BRAIN SCANS OF NEWBORNS. THE STUDY INCLUDED 272 INFANTS WHO RECEIVED M-R-I SCANS SHORTLY AFTER BIRTH. IN SOME CASES, SUCH AS WITH THE GENE VARIANT IN ALZHEIMER'S, THE BRAIN CHANGES IN INFANTS LOOKED VERY SIMILAR TO BRAIN CHANGES. HSM

JANUARY 8 – FOUND IN ADULTS... DOCTORS SAY THIS SUGGESTS THAT THE BRAIN CHANGES AREN'T PRESENT AT BIRTH BUT DEVELOP LATER IN LIFE. WITH MORE HEALTH NEWS, HERE'S BRANDON DICKSON WITH HEALTH CHRONICLES. HSM

JANUARY 9 – THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY'S LATEST ANNUAL REPORT ON THE STATUS OF CANCER SHOWS THAT, OVERALL, CANCER IN THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO DECLINE. HOWEVER, A SPECIAL SECTION IN THE REPORT SHOWS THAT INCIDENCE RATES AMONG HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS (HPV) ASSOCIATED CANCERS IS INCREASING. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH TALKED ABOUT THE FINDINGS WITH DUKE'S DR. EVAN MYERS -- A MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH -- WHO HAS WORKED EXTENSIVELY ON MODELING THE HEALTH AND ECONOMIC IMPACT OF HPV VACCINES. HSM

JANUARY 9 – OBAMA-CARE IS FAILING IT'S DUTY TO STOP HEALTH INSURANCE RATES FROM RISING. IT AS DEVELOPED TO STEM THE RISING COST OF HEALTH CARE, BUT HEALTH INSURANCE COMPANIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY ARE ATTEMPTING TO INCREASE THEIR PREMIUM FOR CUSTOMERS BY OVER 25 PERCENT! ED HAISLMAIER (HIGH-ZUL-MYER), SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW OF THE HEALTH POLICY STUDIES AT THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION, TALKED WITH BILL LUMAYE ABOUT THESE RISING RATES AND FAILURE OF OBAMA-CARE. HSM

JANUARY 10 – TWO OF THE BIGGEST ISSUES THAT GOV. PAT MCCRORY WILL BE FACING WILL BE TAX REFORM AND IMPLEMENTING PRESIDENT OBAMA'S HEALTH CARE LAW. MCCRORY SAYS ALL PARTIES ARE GOING TO WORK TOGETHER TO TAKE ACTION, BUT SOME TOES WILL BE STEPPED ON TO GET THINGS DONE. DALLAS WOODHOUSE, STATE DIRECTOR FOR THE AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY-NC, TALKED TO BILL LUMAYE ABOUT THE NEW GOVERNOR'S PLANS FOR TAX REFORM AND COMMENTS ON THE STATE EXCHANGES WITH OBAMA-CARE. HSM

JANUARY 10 – RESEARCHERS AT DUKE UNIVERSITY ARE TAKING A DIFFERENT APPROACH TO QUICKLY DETECT AND DIAGNOSE INFECTIOUS DISEASES SUCH AS THE FLU AND STAPH. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH DR. GEOFFREY GINSBURG, THE LEAD AUTHOR OF TWO **NEW** STUDIES PUBLISHED ((TODAY / WEDNESDAY)) IN THE JOURNAL PLOS ONE, WHICH SHOW HOW GENOMIC INFORMATION CAN BE USED TO ACCURATELY PINPOINT THE CAUSE OF INFECTION. HSM

JANUARY 10 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW--BARRY PORTER OF TRIANGLE CHAPTER OF AMERICAN RED CROSS--REPORT ON RECENT ACTIVITIES – HSM

JANUARY 14 – RESEARCHERS AT WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY ARE USING A COMPUTER GAME TO PREDICT WHETHER PEOPLE WILL GET FLU SHOTS. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TALKED TO PROFESSOR FRED CHEN ABOUT WHAT MOTIVATES PEOPLE TO MAKE HEALTHY DECISIONS. HSM

JANUARY 14 – A GROWING NUMBER OF PRIVATE DOCTORS' PRACTICES ARE BEING BOUGHT UP BY HOSPITALS WHO WANT TO EXPAND THEIR PATIENT BASE. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TALKED TO JASON DEBRUIN OF THE TRIANGLE BUSINESS JOURNAL ABOUT WHY THE DOCTORS ARE SELLING AND WHAT IT MEANS TO YOU. HSM

JANUARY 14 – ONE OF GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY'S EARLY CONCERNS WAS ABOUT THE SAFETY OF GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS THAT HAVE FALLEN INTO DISREPAIR. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TELLS US WHY A FIRE AT THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION BUILDING HAVE MCCRORY WORRIED ABOUT THE SAFETY OF EMPLOYEES AND SENSITIVE INFORMATION. HSM

JANUARY 16 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW -DR. DANIEL BERNSTEIN-OPHTHALMOLOGIST--EYE PROBLEMS AND PREVENTING BLINDNESS – HSM

JANUARY 18 – WITH THE SANDY HOOK MASSACRE STILL FRESH IN EVERYONE'S MINDS, THE PUSH FOR CHILDREN'S SAFETY HAS BECOME A PRIORITY. FRANK PERRY, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER OF THE NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, TALKED WITH BILL LUMAYE ON WHAT THE STATE WILL BE DOING TO IMPROVE SCHOOL SAFETY. HSM

JANUARY 18 – MORE THAN THIRTY NORTH CAROLINIANS HAVE DIED FROM THE FLU THIS SEASON, BUT SOME RELIEF COULD BE ON THE WAY. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TALKED ABOUT IT WITH MARK VANSIVER (VAN SKY-VER) FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES. HSM

JANUARY 18 – YOU MAY VERY WELL GET THAT "SICK TO YOUR STOMACH" FEELING WHEN YOUR TEAM DOESN'T PERFORM WELL. YOU CAN ALSO GET THAT FEELING WHEN YOU'RE WATCHING THE GAME, AND ENDLESSLY SNACKING ON THOSE GAMEDAY GOODIES. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH DR. JOHN FORTUNATO, A GASTROENTEROLOGIST AT WAKE FOREST BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER, WHO OFFERS SOME TIPS ON HOW TO AVOID THE HARDSHIP OF PLAYOFF HEARTBURN. HSM

JANUARY 22 – COCA-COLA IS FOR THE FIRST TIME ADDRESSING A GROWING ISSUE: OBESITY. IT'S NEW AD LAYS OUT COCA-COLA'S RECORD OF PROVIDING DRINKS WITH FEWER CALORIES OVER THE YEARS AND NOTES THAT WEIGHT GAIN IS THE RESULT OF CONSUMING TOO MANY CALORIES OF ANY KIND. THIS AD COMES FROM THE PRESSURE PUT ON BY NEW STUDIES SHOWING THAT DRINKING SODAS ISN'T GOOD FOR YOU HEALTH AND PEOPLE WANTING TO MAKE THE PUBLIC AWARE OF THE HEALTH RISKS. JEFF STIER (STYE-ER), SENIOR FELLOW OF THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY, TALKS WITH BILL LUMAYE ON HOW THIS NEW AD AND THE 'FOOD POLICE' WHICH ARE DECLARING WAR ON OBESITY. HSM

JANUARY 21 – MORE THAN THIRTY NORTH CAROLINIANS HAVE DIED FROM THE FLU THIS SEASON, BUT HEALTH OFFICIALS SAY IT ISN'T TOO LATE TO PROTECT YOURSELF. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TALKED ABOUT IT WITH MARK VANSIVER (VAN SKY-VER) FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES. HSM

JANUARY 24 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-JOE GRAEDON, PHARMOCOLOGIST--DEALING WITH FLU, NOROVIRUS, GENERIC DRUGS- HSM

JANUARY 24 – ACCORDING TO A NEW STUDY FROM WAKE FOREST BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER, NORTH CAROLINA'S MIGRANT FARM WORKERS ARE AT POTENTIAL RISK FROM FOOD AND WATERBORNE ILLNESSES DUE TO THE CONDITION OF FACILITIES AVAILABLE TO THEM. IN PART ONE OUR IN-DEPTH LOOK AT THE REPORT -- PUBLISHED ONLINE IN THE JANUARY ISSUE OF THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PUBLIC HEALTH -- WPTF'S JOSH ZACH TALKS TO LEAD AUTHOR, DR. SARA QUANDT (KWANT), ABOUT THE FINDINGS. HSM

JANUARY 29 – AS LAWMAKERS HEAD BACK TO RALEIGH NEXT WEEK FOR THE BEGINNING OF THEIR 2013 SESSION, THE ISSUE OF WHETHER TO EXPAND MEDICAID WILL BE ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS THEY'LL HAVE TO ADDRESS. STEPHANIE CARSON HAS MORE. HSM

JANUARY 29 – ACCORDING TO DUKE MEDICINE RESEARCH, PATIENTS IN THE EARLY STAGES OF BREAST CANCER WHO WERE TREATED WITH LUMPECTOMY PLUS RADIATION MAY HAVE A

BETTER CHANCE OF SURVIVAL COMPARED WITH THOSE WHO UNDERWENT MASTECTOMY. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH DISCUSSED THE FINDINGS WITH DR. SHELLEY HWANG (WONG) AT DUKE CANCER INSTITUTE -- LEAD AUTHOR OF THE NEW OBSERVATIONAL STUDY PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL CANCER. HSM

JANUARY 30 -- A NEW POLL SHOWS THAT 58 PERCENT OF NORTH CAROLINIANS THINK DOCTORS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO PRESCRIBE MARIJUANA FOR MEDICAL USE. A NATIONAL GUARD VETERAN WHO USES MARIJUANA FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES IS ON A CRUSADE TO MAKE IT LEGAL. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TALKED TO PERRY PARKS WITH THE NORTH CAROLINA CANNABIS PATIENTS NETWORK. HSM

FEBRUARY 5 -- HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS MAY BE AT GREATER RISK OF FLU EXPOSURE THAN PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT, ACCORDING TO A NEW STUDY FROM RESEARCHERS AT WAKE FOREST BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE TO DR. WERNER BISCHOFF (BISH-OFF) -- LEAD AUTHOR OF THE STUDY -- ABOUT THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS. HSM

FEBRUARY 5 -- HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS MAY BE AT GREATER RISK OF FLU EXPOSURE THAN PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT, ACCORDING TO A NEW STUDY FROM RESEARCHERS AT WAKE FOREST BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE TO DR. WERNER BISCHOFF (BISH-OFF) -- LEAD AUTHOR OF THE STUDY -- ABOUT THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS. HSM

FEBRUARY 7 -- IT'S A DIFFERENT KIND OF HEART ATTACK -- AND ITS AFFECTS SOME GROUPS MORE THAN OTHERS .. DR. KEVIN THOMAS AT DUKE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER TALKED WITH BRUCE FERRELL ABOUT A CAMPAIGN IN CONJUNCTION WITH HEART HEALTH MONTH THAT COULD SAVE LIVES. HSM

FEBRUARY 8 -- WITH THE CRAZY UP-AND-DOWN WEATHER THAT WE'VE BEEN HAVING, THERE'S NO WONDER WHY THE FLU HAS BECOME SUCH A MAJOR EPIDEMIC. JEFF MELCHER, A FLU RESEARCHER, JOINS MORNING DRIVE HOST DOUG KELLETT TO ENLIGHTEN US ON HOW TO DEAL WITH THE FLU THROUGH NATURAL PRODUCTS. HSM

FEBRUARY 11 -- NEW PROPOSED RULES FROM THE AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT COULD BRING HEALTHIER SNACKS FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS. GARY CRAWFORD HAS THIS REPORT. HSM

FEBRUARY 11 -- SUPERBUGS. IT SOUNDS LIKE SCIENCE FICTION. BUT THOUSANDS OF DEATHS IN HOSPITALS CAN BE ASSOCIATED WITH ONE OF SEVERAL OF THESE ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANT ORGANISMS, AND EMERGED AS AN EMINENT PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERN OF THE MODERN DAY. BUT RESEARCH OUT OF DUKE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER AND THE UNC HOSPITAL SYSTEM IS SHOWING PROGRESS. IN PART ONE OF THIS IN-DEPTH LOOK AT FIGHTING SUPERBUGS, WPTF'S JOSH ZACH TALKS WITH DUKE DR. DEVERICK ANDERSON -- AN INFECTIOUS DISEASE SPECIALIST --ABOUT USING ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT TO CONTROL SUPERBUG INFECTIONS IN HOSPITALS. HSM

FEBRUARY 12 -- ANOTHER FAKE BATCH OF THE CANCER DRUG "AVASTIN" TURNED UP IN THE U.S. THIS WEEK. IT'S THE THIRD SUCH CASE IN THE PAST YEAR. COUNTERFEIT DRUGS OFTEN COME INTO OUR HOMES THROUGH ONLINE PHARMACIES. IN FACT, ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BOARDS OF PHARMACY, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, ONE IN FOUR ONLINE SHOPPERS HAVE PURCHASED DRUGS ONLINE AND ONLY ABOUT 3 PERCENT OF INTERNET PHARMACIES FOLLOW STATE LAWS. "CBS THIS MORNING" TALKS WITH ECONOMIST ROGER BATE, THE AUTHOR OF "FAKE: THE DEADLY WORLD OF FALSIFIED AND SUBSTANDARD MEDICINES." ABOUT THESE PHARMACIES. HSM

FEBRUARY 14 – LEGISLATORS HAVE REJECTED AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPAND MEDICAID COVERAGE TO ANOTHER 500-THOUSAND UNINSURED NORTH CAROLINIANS. THE BILL EASILY GAINED FINAL APPROVAL IN THE STATE HOUSE ON WEDNESDAY, DESPITE A HARD-FOUGHT BATTLE BY DEMOCRATS TO STOP IT. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TELLS US HOW THE VOTE WENT DOWN. HSM

FEBRUARY 14 – WE GO TO HOSPITALS BECAUSE, GENERALLY, WE'RE SICK AND NEED TO GET BETTER. BUT WHAT YOU MAY NOT KNOW IS THAT -- LIVING IN HOSPITALS -- ARE SEVERAL ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANT ORGANISMS THAT COULD VERY WELL KILL YOU. THEY'RE CALLED SUPERBUGS, AND IN THE FINAL INSTALLMENT OF THIS IN-DEPTH LOOK, WPTF'S JOSH ZACH ASKS DUKE DR. DEVERICK ANDERSON IF THE MEDIA HYPE OVER THE SUPERBUG PHENOMENON IS FACT OR FICTION, AND IF RESEARCH UNDERWAY AT DUKE AND UNC CAN PUT AN END TO THESE ORGANISMS, BELIEVED RESPONSIBLE FOR THOUSANDS OF HEALTH CARE-ASSOCIATED DEATHS. HSM

FEBRUARY 15 – THE NORTH CAROLINA HOUSE HAS REJECTED AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPAND MEDICAID COVERAGE TO 500-THOUSAND UNINSURED RESIDENTS. AS WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO REPORTS, THE VOTE WENT DOWN AMID IMPASSIONED ARGUMENTS FROM DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS. HSM

FEBRUARY 19 – THE DEATH OF MINDY MCCREADY HAS OPENED THE TOPIC OF DEPRESSION AND SUICIDE AMONG CELEBRITIES. CARRIE CECIL, AUTHOR OF "ONE SUNDAY", CHATS WITH THE MORNING DRIVE HOST DOUG KELLETT TO ADDRESS MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES AND EXPLAIN THE VOID THAT CAN PLAY APART OF CELEBRITY LIFE STYLES. HSM

FEBRUARY 19 – THE CENTER FOR SCIENCE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST OR CSPI HAS FILED A PETITION WITH THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION TO IDENTIFY A SAFE LEVEL FOR ADDED SUGARS IN BEVERAGES. CSPI ARGUES THAT THE HIGH FRUCTOSE CORN SYRUP IN SOFT DRINKS CAUSE OBESITY, DIABETES, HEART DISEASE, AND OTHER HEALTH PROBLEMS. JULIE GUNLOCK, DIRECTOR FOR WOMEN FOR FOOD FREEDOM AT INDEPENDENT WOMEN'S FORUM TOPIC, TALKS WITH BILL LUMAYE ABOUT THIS GROUP'S REAL INTENTIONS FOR CONTROLLING THE SUGAR LEVELS. HSM

FEBRUARY 21 – THE DEBATE OVER MEDICAL MARIJUANA GOT LOUD AND ANGRY ON WEDNESDAY, WITH SUPPORTERS LASHING OUT AT LAWMAKERS WHO VOTED NOT TO LEGALIZE THE DRUG. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TAKES US THERE. HSM

FEBRUARY 22 – THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL HAS FOUND THAT AMERICAN KIDS ARE CONSUMING FEWER CALORIES OVERALL THAN THEY DID, A DECADE AGO... ABOUT 7 PERCENT LESS FOR BOYS, 4 PERCENT FOR GIRLS... NOT A HUGE AMOUNT BUT IT IS SOMETHING POSITIVE. THE CDC ALSO FOUND THAT THE ADULT OBESITY RATE HAS FINALLY PLATEAUED, AFTER YEARS OF INCREASES....WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN HAS MORE. HSM

FEBRUARY 26 – A LONG-STANDING RECOMMENDATION FOR IMPROVING OUR HEALTH-CARE SYSTEM AND REDUCING COSTS HAS BEEN TO COMPUTERIZE PAPER MEDICAL RECORDS. THIS COULD SAVE MONEY BY REDUCING STORAGE SPACE AND INCREASE EFFICIENCY BY FACILITATING THE SHARING OF THAT INFORMATION BY HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS. BUT IS THERE ANY EVIDENCE SUCH OUTCOMES ACTUALLY OCCUR? N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST MIKE WALDEN ANSWERS. HSM

FEBRUARY 26 – BULLIED CHILDREN ARE AT INCREASED RISK OF DEVELOPING ANXIETY DISORDERS IN ADULTHOOD ... THAT'S THE FINDING FROM A 20-YEAR STUDY BY RESEARCHERS AT DUKE MEDICINE. IN PART 1 OF A TWO-PART DISCUSSION ON THE DATA, WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPEAKS WITH DR. WILLIAM COPELAND -- AT DUKE'S DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES -- WHO SAYS THE PSYCHOLOGICAL DAMAGE DOESN'T GO AWAY JUST BECAUSE A PERSON GREW UP AND IS NO LONGER BULLIED. HSM

NORTH CAROLINA LAWMAKERS APPROVED A BILL TUESDAY BARRING THE STATE FROM EXPANDING MEDICAID. GOV. PAT MCCRORY HAS INDICATED THAT HE'LL SIGN THE BILL WHEN IT REACHES HIS DESK. THE MEASURE MAKES CLEAR THAT NORTH CAROLINA WILL LEAVE THE STATE'S ONLINE HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. JOHN HOOD, PRESIDENT OF THE JOHN LOCKE FOUNDATION, SITS DOWN WITH BILL LUMAYE AND DISCUSSES THE DECISION MADE NOT TO EXPAND MEDICAID AND HOW MANY PEOPLE WON'T HAVE MEDICAID. HSM

FEBRUARY 27 – PSYCHOLOGICAL DAMAGE FROM BULLYING DOESN'T STOP JUST BECAUSE A PERSON GREW UP AND IS NO LONGER BULLIED. A NEW STUDY BY RESEARCHERS AT DUKE SHOWS THAT BULLIES, BULLYING VICTIMS AND THOSE WHO WERE BOTH A BULLY AND A VICTIM ALL SUFFERED LASTING AFFECTS INTO ADULthood. IN THE 2ND PART OF OUR LOOK AT THE RESEARCH, THE STUDY'S LEAD AUTHOR -- DR. WILLIAM COPELAND -- TELLS WPTF'S JOSH ZACH THAT MORE THAN 1,400 SUBJECTS WERE FOLLOWED EVERY YEAR FOR 20 YEARS TO EVALUATE THEIR OUTCOMES. HSM

FEBRUARY 27 – RALEIGH-BASED CARECONSCIOUS IS LAUNCHING A NEW WEB-BASED PLATFORM TO ASSIST PEOPLE IN THE GROWING CHALLENGE TO PROVIDE CARE FOR AGING RELATIVES. AND TWO CELEBRITIES WILL APPEAR AT THE PRODUCT DEBUT EVENT TODAY. BRIAN FREEMAN GETS DETAILS OF THIS NEW SERVICE FROM CEO CARA MAE MELTON. HSM

FEBRUARY 27 – WE'RE SURROUNDED BY PLASTIC. LOOK AROUND ... IT'S NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE TO ESCAPE IT. AND THOSE PLASTICS -- IF THEY CONTAIN THE CHEMICAL, B-P-A -- COULD VERY WELL INTERFERE WITH YOUR BODY'S ENDOCRINE SYSTEM. B-P-A'S ARE FOUND IN MANY OTHER PRODUCTS THAT WE TOUCH ALMOST EVERY DAY, AND WPTF'S JOSH ZACH LEARNED FROM DUKE MEDICINE'S DR. WOLFGANG LIEDTKE (LEET-KUH) -- LEAD AUTHOR OF A NEW STUDY -- THAT CONTACT WITH B-P-A'S COULD PREDISPOSE ANIMALS AND HUMANS TO NEURO-DEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS. HSM

FEBRUARY 28 – WOMEN WHO WANT TO HAVE THEIR BABIES AT HOME WITH THE HELP OF CERTIFIED NURSE PRACTITIONERS WANT RECOGNITION FOR THAT CONTROVERSIAL PROFESSION. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO REPORTS ON THE GROWING DEBATE OVER WHO SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO PRACTICE MIDWIFERY IN NORTH CAROLINA. HSM

MARCH 5 – AT THE CENTER OF ALL THE RECENT MASS SHOOTINGS IS THE ISSUE OF MENTAL HEALTH... DOUG KELLETT OF THE MORNING DRIVE TALKS WITH DR. GREGORY JANTZ ABOUT THE CHALLENGE OF HANDLING THIS RISING DILEMMA. HSM

MARCH 5 – MEDICATION THAT DOCTORS SAY HAS CURED A BABY BORN WITH HIV HAS TIES TO RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK. THE CHILD IN MISSISSIPPI WAS GIVEN TWO DRUGS SOLD BY VIIV HEALTHCARE AND ABBOTT LABORATORIES. VIIV IS BASED IN RTP, AND IS A JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN GLAXO SMITH KLINE AND PFIZER. ABC 11'S ANGELICA ALVAREZ TALKED WITH A DOCTOR WHO SAYS THE WORD 'CURE' IS BEING USED TOO EASILY. HSM

MARCH 8 – A NEW SURVEY FROM PNC SHOWS THAT 84 PERCENT OF AMERICANS PLAN TO SEE A DENTIST THIS YEAR, BUT ONLY 43 PERCENT PLAN TO SEE A FINANCIAL PLANNER. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TALKED TO KATHY KRAEBLEN (KRAY-BLEN) ABOUT WHY MOST OF US ARE MORE WORRIED ABOUT OUR PHYSICAL FITNESS THAN OUR FISCAL FITNESS. HSM

MARCH 8 – GOV. PAT MCCRORY SIGNED A BILL IN TO LAW THIS WEEK THAT BLOCKS NORTH CAROLINA FROM EXPANDING MEDICAID TO COVER MORE LOWER-INCOME PEOPLE AND FROM OPERATING AN ONLINE HEALTH CARE MARKETPLACE, LEAVING THE TASK -- INSTEAD -- TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SAT DOWN WITH SKIP WOODY, PARTNER AT HILL, CHESSON & WOODY -- A HEALTH AND WELFARE BENEFITS CONSULTING FIRM -- TO

DISCUSS WHAT A FEDERAL HEALTH EXCHANGE WILL MEAN FOR SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS AND THOSE SEEKING COVERAGE. HSM

MARCH 11 – IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN ... WELL ... IT WAS ... AND I SUPPOSE IT STILL IS ... THIS PAST WEEKEND WE MOVED OUR CLOCKS ONE HOUR FORWARD IN OBSERVANCE OF DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME. SOME COMPLAINED ABOUT LOSING SLEEP WHILE OTHERS ARE PRAISING THE BENEFITS OF MORE SUNSHINE. WHILE YOU CONSIDER THE DEBATE, ALSO CONSIDER THE PHYSICAL EFFECTS OF TIME CHANGE. WPTF'S JOSH SPOKE WITH DR. SANDHYA KUMAR (SAN-DYE-UH KOO-MAHR), DIRECTOR OF THE SLEEP MEDICINE CENTER AT WAKE FOREST BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER, WHO COMPARES CHANGING THE CLOCKS TO SYMPTOMS OF JET LAG. HSM

MARCH 12 – AS MOST OF US KNOW, HEALTHCARE CAN BE EXPENSIVE. BUT EVEN WITH INSURANCE, ILLNESSES AND INJURIES CAN BE EXCEEDINGLY COSTLY. WPTF'S PATRICK JOHNSON TALKED WITH MANISHA THAKOR (MUH-KNEE-SHA, TUH-CORE), A PERSONAL FINANCE EXPERT, TO FIND OUT HOW WE CAN COPE WITH THESE HIGH COSTS. HSM

MARCH 13 – HOW PEOPLE WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT DEPENDS ON STATE POLITICS, DEMOGRAPHICS AND BUSINESS ENVIRONMENTS. WE ALREADY KNOW THAT NORTH CAROLINA WILL NOT OPERATE A STATE-RUN HEALTH EXCHANGE, LEAVING THE TASK - INSTEAD - TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. SKIP WOODY OF HILL, CHESSON & WOODY -- A DURHAM HEALTH BENEFITS CONSULTING FIRM -- TELLS WPTF'S JOSH ZACH HOW INDIVIDUALS -- ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL SUBSIDIES -- MIGHT PURCHASE COVERAGE THROUGH THE FORTHCOMING ONLINE MARKETPLACE. HSM

MARCH 14 – CANCER PATIENTS FIGHT FOR LIFE EVERYDAY AND TODAY IS YOUR CHANCE TO SUPPORT THE FIGHT BY GIVING BLOOD AT THE APEX BLOOD DRIVE. JIM VOGEL WITH THE APEX KIWANIS CLUB SPOKE WITH BRIAN FREEMAN ABOUT HOW IMPORTANT IT IS FOR THE PUBLIC TO COME OUT AND GIVE TODAY. HSM

MARCH 15 – COMPETITION BETWEEN DUKE, UNC, AND NC STATE IS THE NAME OF THE GAME DURING MARCH MADNESS, BUT COOPERATION IS THE KEY WORD IN THEIR RESEARCH LABS. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TALKED TO JASON DEBRUIN OF THE TRIANGLE BUSINESS JOURNAL ABOUT WHY THEY'RE TEAMING UP OFF THE COURT. HSM

MARCH 18 – THE BUSINESS OF HEALTH CARE IS AN OFTEN CONFOUNDING TOPIC, AND THE FORTHCOMING AFFORDABLE CARE ACT IS CAUSING A LOT OF CONFUSION AMONG BUSINESSES AND INDIVIDUALS. STIPULATIONS ... PENALTIES ... EXCHANGES ... IT'S A NEW CONCEPT AND WE MUST GET A HANDLE ON IT BEFORE THE END OF 2013. SKIP WOODY OF HILL, CHESSON & WOODY -- A DURHAM HEALTH BENEFITS CONSULTING FIRM -- TELLS WPTF'S JOSH ZACH HOW BOTH BUSINESSES AND INDIVIDUALS MIGHT CARRY COVERAGE AS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT DRAWS NEAR. HSM

MARCH 20 – TODAY, KIDS IN NORTH CAROLINA WILL JOIN OTHERS AROUND THE NATION IN EVENTS CALLING ATTENTION TO THE DANGERS OF TOBACCO USE - AND CALLING ATTENTION TO THE INDUSTRY'S MARKETING TACTICS -- BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH DANNY MCGORDRICK WITH THE CAMPAIGN FOR TOBACCO FREE KIDS . HSM

MARCH 21 – WITH THE CHANGES THAT ARE PART OF THE AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE ACT CONTINUES TO BE PHASED IN -- IT IS STILL NOT CLEAR THE MAJOR CHANGES IN HEALTH INSURANCE WILL ALL WORK.. ON A RECENT EDITION OF CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS, DON CURTIS TALKED WITH STATE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER WAYNE GOODWIN. HSM

MARCH 26 – A NEW STUDY FROM THE AMERICAN ORTHOPAEDIC SOCIETY FOR SPORTS MEDICINE CLAIMS THAT PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IN YOUTH MAY REDUCE A PERSON'S RISK OF BONE FRACTURES IN OLD AGE. THE STUDY SAYS ACTIVE CHILDREN WHO PERFORM

REGULAR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY HAVE AN INCREASED AMOUNT OF PEAK BONE MASS...THE STUDY AUTHORS SAY ACTIVITIES LIKE KICKING A SOCCER BALL AROUND AS A CHILD COULD HELP PREVENT A BROKEN HIP LATER IN LIFE. DR. BJORN (BYORN) ROSENGREN, THE STUDY'S LEAD AUTHOR SAYS DEVELOPING PEAK BONE MASS IN CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS HELPS PREVENT FUTURE INJURIES. HSM

MARCH 27 – DO YOU KNOW YOUR RISK ? TODAY IS (TUESDAY WAS) DIABETES ALERT DAY -- AND HEALTH OFFICIALS ARE SAYING YOU NEED TO KNOW WHETHER YOUR HEALTH CHOICES COULD MAKE YOU MORE LIKELY TO CONTRACT THE DISEASE. -- BRUCE FERRELL GOT DETAILS FROM LURELEAN B. GAINES, PRESIDENT, HEALTH CARE & EDUCATION, AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION. HSM

IA- International Affairs

NS - National Security

FEBRUARY 21 – THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION IS LAUNCHING A NEW STRATEGY TO FIGHT THE GROWING THEFT OF TRADE SECRETS FOLLOWING NEW EVIDENCE LINKING CYBER-STEALING TO CHINA'S MILITARY. THE PLAN INCLUDES A FRESH DIPLOMATIC EFFORT TO DISCOURAGE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY THEFT ABROAD. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH DISCUSSED ECONOMIC ESPIONAGE WITH FBI SPECIAL AGENT TIMOTHY STRANAHAN, AND LEARNED WHAT COMPANIES CAN DO TO PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM RISK. NS

FEBRUARY 28 – THIS PAST MONTH THERE'S BEEN A LOT OF BUZZ ABOUT CHINA'S CYBER ATTACKS AGAINST THE UNITED STATES. WHAT HARM COULD THEY INFLICT TO THE U.S. INDUSTRY AND OUR WAY OF LIFE? DOUG KELLETT OF THE MORNING DRIVE SITS DOWN WITH CHARLES MARTIN, A CYBER SECURITY EXPERT, TO FIND OUT WHAT THESE ATTACKS COULD ACTUALLY DO. NS

MARCH 12 – WE EXPECT TO HEAR MORE THIS WEEK ABOUT A PLAN FROM GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY'S PUBLIC SAFETY SECRETARY TO IMPROVE SCHOOL SAFETY -- ABC11'S JOHN CAMP HAD AN IN-DEPTH CONVERSATION WITH KIERNAN SHANAHAN ABOUT THAT PLAN. NS

MARCH 14 – AN ID CARD ISSUED BY THE MEXICAN CONSULATE TO IMMIGRANTS LIVING IN NORTH CAROLINA IS STIRRING UP CONTROVERSY. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TELLS US WHY SOME LAWMAKERS WANT TO FORBID THE ID FROM BEING USED FOR OFFICIAL PURPOSES. NS

MARCH 21 – THE NAMES OF THE SEVEN MARINES KILLED IN A MORTAR BLAST IN NEVADA ON MONDAY , INCLUDING ONE FROM NORTH CAROLINA, WERE RELEASED YESTERDAY. THEY'RE CALLED "LEATHERNECKS" OR "DEVIL DOGS," BUT SOME OF THE MARINES KILLED IN A DESERT TRAINING ACCIDENT THIS WEEK WERE JUST A YEAR OR SO OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL. ABC 11'S FRED SHROPSHIRE TELLS US THE DETAILS. NS

PA – Political Affairs

JANUARY 2 – CONGRESS HAS PASSED THE FISCAL CLIFF MEASURE WHICH NOW DOES TO THE PRESIDENT'S DESK FOR A SIGNATURE. WHAT DOES THE MEASURE MEAN TO THOSE OF US HERE IN NORTH CAROLINA? BRIAN FREEMAN SPOKE TO JILL SCHLESINGER OF CBS MONEYWATCH.COM ABOUT SOME OF THE HIDDEN COSTS. PA

JANUARY 4 – FOR THE PAST FEW MONTHS THERE'S BEEN THE REPUBLICANS AND DEMOCRATS HAVE BEEN STORMILY DEBATING ON THE FISCAL CLIFF. NOW THAT THE DEAL HAS BEEN MADE WE'VE LANDED IN A NEW YEAR WITH A LONG JOURNEY BEFORE US. BUT IT'S NOT JUST THE TAXES WE'LL HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT. AS HOPE HODGE, A HUMAN EVENTS

COLUMNIST, TELLS MORNING DRIVE SHOW HOST DOUG KELLETT, AMERICANS WILL BE FACING THE FISCAL CLIFF DEAL, COMPROMISE, MILITARY SPENDING CUTS... OH MY! PA

JANUARY 4 – NOT EVERYONE WAS HAPPY IS ABOUT THE DEAL MADE CONCERNING THE FISCAL CLIFF; HOWEVER, THERE ARE A FEW WHO SUPPORTED IT. SENATOR RICHARD BURR IS ONE OF THOSE SUPPORTERS. HE TALKED TO BILL LUMAYE ON TALK RADIO 850 WPTF ON WHY BELIEVES THE DEAL WAS A GOOD ONE. PA

JANUARY 4 – NOW THAT THE HOUSE AND SENATE HAVE AGREED TO A DEAL TO AVOID THE FISCAL CLIFF AND PREVENT A TAX INCREASE ON MIDDLE CLASS FAMILIES IN NORTH CAROLINA, EVERYONE CAN TAKE A COLLECTIVE SIGH OF RELIEF...AT LEAST FOR A LITTLE WHILE. ON THURSDAY, U-S SENATOR KAY HAGAN DISCUSSED HER PLEASURE OVER THE BIPARTISAN DEAL, BUT ALSO SAID THERE'S PLENTY OF WORK AHEAD. PA

JANUARY 8 – NEW GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY KICKED OFF A STATEWIDE TOUR YESTERDAY PLEDGING TO "LISTEN AND LEARN" --AND THEN GET TO WORK. MITCH KOKAI, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE JOHN LOCKE FOUNDATION, CHATTED WITH DEMETRI RAVANOS ON TALK RADIO 850 WPTF ABOUT THE ISSUES THAT NEW GOVERNOR WILL NEED TO HANDLE IN HIS FIRST DAYS IN OFFICE. PA

JANUARY 8 – THE REPUBLICANS AND DEMOCRATS FINALLY AGREED ON A FISCAL CLIFF DEAL AND THE PRESIDENT SIGNED IT INTO LAW. BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THIS WAS ONLY A TEMPORARY FIX ON A PERMANENT PROBLEM. DANIEL WEBBER, PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MATURE AMERICAN CITIZENS, TALKED TO BILL LUMAYE ABOUT THE STILL PRESENT PROBLEM OF THE FISCAL CLIFF AND THE LOOMING DEBT. PA

JANUARY 8 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW--RAN COBLE AND MEBANE RASH OF N.C.CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCHREPORTS AND COMMENT ON POLITICS AND PUBLIC POLICY - PA

JANUARY 10 – THE REPUBLICAN-LED GENERAL ASSEMBLY RETURNED TO TOWN ON WEDNESDAY FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE REPUBLICAN GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY WAS ELECTED. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TAKES US TO OPENING DAY AND TELLS US HOW THIS SESSION MIGHT BE DIFFERENT FROM YEARS PAST. PA

JANUARY 17 – REPUBLICAN LEADERS ARE SPELLING OUT THE AGENDA THEY'LL PURSUE WHEN THEY'LL RETURN TO TOWN IN LATE JANUARY. HERE'S AN EXCERPT FROM SENATE LEADER PHIL BERGER'S DISCUSSION WITH REPORTERS ON WEDNESDAY. PA

JANUARY 21 – PRESIDENT OBAMA WILL DELIVER HIS SECOND INAUGURAL SPEECH ON MONDAY, AND IT SHOULD GIVE US SOME INSIGHT AS TO HIS PRIORITIES FOR HIS SECOND TERM. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO GOT SOME PERSPECTIVE FROM WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR DAVID COATES. PA

JANUARY 29 – THE DEBT CEILING DEBATE IS PUT ON HOLD TILL MARCH SO WHAT'S NEXT ON THE AGENDA FOR WASHINGTON ? US CONGRESSMAN GEORGE HOLDING SPEAKS WITH BILL LUMAYE AND SAYS THE FIRST THING TO WORK ON IS MAKING A BUDGET. PA

FEBRUARY 7 – ALTHOUGH IT HASN'T BEEN FILED YET, LAWMAKERS EXPECT TO HEAR AND PASS A BILL TO REQUIRE VOTERS TO SHOW PHOTO IDENTIFICATION AT THE POLLS THIS YEAR. FORMER GOV. BEV PERDUE VETOED A VOTER ID PROPOSAL DURING THE LAST LEGISLATIVE SESSION. GOV. PAT MCCRORY SAID DURING HIS 2012 CAMPAIGN THAT HE SUPPORTED SUCH A REQUIREMENT. ALLISON RIGGS, STAFF ATTORNEY FOR THE SOUTHERN COALITION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE, TELLS BILL LUMAYE WHY A VOTER ID BILL IN NORTH CAROLINA SHOULD BE OPPOSED. PA

FEBRUARY 7 – EARLIER THIS WEEK A BIPARTISAN GROUP OF NORTH CAROLINA LAWMAKERS INTRODUCED HOUSE BILL 66, A MEASURE THAT WOULD GRANT THE NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION THE ABILITY TO ISSUE PERMITS FOR WILD ANIMALS TO BE HELD CAPTIVE FOR "SCIENTIFIC, EDUCATIONAL, OR **EXHIBITION** PURPOSES." WPTF'S JOSH ZACH TOOK A CLOSER LOOK AT THE ISSUE THAT'S QUICKLY BECOMING KNOWN AS, "THE BRASSTOWN BILL." PA

FEBRUARY 8 – PITTSBORO MAYOR RANDY VOLLER IS COMING OUT SWINGING AS THE NEW HEAD OF THE NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATIC PARTY. IN A MEETING WITH REPORTERS ON THURSDAY, VOLLER CRITICIZED THE GOP LEGISLATURE'S AGENDA AND SAID DEMOCRATS ARE REGROUPING AFTER BIG LOSSES IN THE NOVEMBER ELECTION. PA

FEBRUARY 8 – REPUBLICAN SURPRISED DEMOCRATS WITH A NEW BILL THAT FIRES ALL MEMBERS OF IMPORTANT BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS SO THEY CAN BE REPLACED BY GOV. MCCRORY AND REPUBLICAN LEGISLATIVE LEADERS. BARLOW HERGET FROM SGRTODAY.COM WENT IN-DEPTH ON THE SUBJECT WITH BRIAN FREEMAN. PA

FEBRUARY 8 – FOR A THIRD YEAR IN A ROW, PRESIDENT OBAMA BLEW THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING HIS BUDGET REQUEST TO CONGRESS. THIS PROMPTED REACTIONS FROM THE REPUBLICANS WHO CHARGED THAT HIS FAILURE TO DELIVER A BUDGET BY MONDAY'S DEADLINE IS RAISING QUESTIONS ABOUT HIS LEADERSHIP AND THEY VOWED TO PASS LEGISLATION THAT WOULD FORCE THE PRESIDENT TO PRODUCE A BUDGET ON TIME. EMILY GOFF, RESEARCH ASSOCIATE OF THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION, CHATS WITH BILL LUMAYE AS TO WHY PRESIDENT OBAMA KEEPS MISSING HIS BUDGET DEADLINE. PA

FEBRUARY 11 – COMMUNITY, BUSINESS, AND POLITICAL LEADERS WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE NATIONAL DEBT ARE ASKING PRESIDENT OBAMA TO MAKE IT A PRIORITY IN HIS UPCOMING STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TALKED TO RALEIGH CITY COUNCIL MEMBER MARY ANN BALDWIN, WHO IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE "FIX THE DEBT" CAMPAIGN. PA

FEBRUARY 18 – THERE IS MOVEMENT IN WASHINGTON TO TAX INTERNET PURCHASES AND APPARENTLY THERE IS INCREASING SUPPORT FROM THE GOP. PAUL BEDARD FROM THE WASHINGTON EXAMINER LOOKS AT THE TOPIC WITH BRIAN FREEMAN. PA

FEBRUARY 19 – DEMOCRATS CHALLENGED GOVERNOR MCCRORY ON EDUCATION, TAX REFORM, AND GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY AFTER MONDAY'S STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS. REPRESENTATIVE LARRY HALL OF DURHAM CALLED ON THE GOVERNOR TO PUT PARTY POLITICS ASIDE AND WORK WITH THEM ON LEGISLATION THAT WOULD BENEFIT ALL NORTH CAROLINIANS. HERE'S AN EXCERPT FROM THAT SPEECH. PA

FEBRUARY 26 – THE GOP HAS FILED COMPLAINTS WITH THE STATE ELECTIONS BOARD AND IRS AGAINST BLUEPRINT NORTH CAROLINA LINKED TO A MEMO THAT LAID OUT AN ATTACK STRATEGY AGAINST GOV. PAT MCCRORY AND OTHER REPUBLICAN LEADERS. THE MEMO, FORWARDED TO THE GROUP'S NONPROFIT ALLIES, GAVE A LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO "CRIPPLE" THE LEADERS AND "EVISCERATE THE LEADERSHIP AND WEAKEN THEIR ABILITY TO GOVERN." ROBIN HAYES, NORTH CAROLINA REPUBLICAN PARTY CHAIR, TALKS WITH BILL LUMAYE ABOUT THESE ATTACKS AND WHAT SHOULD BE DONE ABOUT THEM. PA

FEBRUARY 27 – WITH THE CLOCK TICKING TOWARD AUTOMATIC FEDERAL SPENDING CUTS, KNOWN AS SEQUESTRATION, SEN. KAY HAGAN SAYS SHE WILL BE MEETING WITH OTHER DEMOCRATIC SENATORS AND REPUBLICANS -- WHO STILL WANT TO FIND A WAY TO RESOLVE THE IMPASSE. -- AND STILL USE SOME GUIDANCE FROM THE PLAN CREATED IN PART BY FORMER UNC SYSTEM PRESIDENT ERSKINE BOWLES. SHE SPOKE WITH REPORTERS BY PHONE ABOUT SOME THE IMPACTS SHE'S MOST CONCERNED ABOUT, ESPECIALLY HOW IT MAY HURT THE NATION'S FIGHTING MEN AND WOMEN. PA

FEBRUARY 27 – HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADERS SPOKE YESTERDAY TO REPORTERS ABOUT THE SEQUESTRATION BUDGET CUTS SET TO BEGIN ON MARCH 1. HOUSE SPEAKER BOEHNER LET SOME FRANK LANGUAGE SLIP AS HE PUSHED THE SENATE DEMOCRATS TO ACT ON DEALING WITH THE IMPENDING BUDGET CUTS. HERE IS BOEHNER'S FULL SPEECH. PA

MARCH 1 – AGAINST STRONG PUBLIC OPPOSITION, THE GOP LEGISLATURE WANTS TO BRING BACK PAYDAY LENDING. BRIAN FREEMAN GOT DETAILS FROM BARLOW HERGET AT SGRTODAY.COM ABOUT THE "WHY" PORTION OF THIS STORY. PA

MARCH 5 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW-RAN COBLE,N.C. CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH-COMMENT ON NORTH CAROLINA GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS-PA

MARCH 8 – PHOTO I-D FOR VOTERS IN OUR STATE HAS SPARKED DEBATE FROM BOTH SIDES OF THE POLITICAL ISLE AND OTHERS ACROSS NORTH CAROLINA. AND AS PATRICK JOHNSON TELLS US, THE LARGEST CIVIL RIGHTS ORGANIZATION IN THE COUNTRY HAS SOUNDED OFF AGAINST VOTER I-D. PA

MARCH 11 – A BIPARTISAN EFFORT LED TO A 13 HOUR FILIBUSTER BY SENATOR RAND PAUL... MITCH KOKAI OF THE JOHN LOCKE FOUNDATION STOPS BY THE MORNING DRIVE WITH FILL-IN HOST DEMETRI RAVANOS TO DISCUSS THE ONE QUESTION THAT NEEDED TO BE ANSWERED, REGARDLESS OF HOW LONG IT TOOK. PA

MARCH 15 – HELMETS AWAY OR NOT? A FAVORITE ISSUE AMONG THE TEA PARTY IS TO RESTORE THE WIND IN THE HAIR OF MOTORCYCLE RIDERS. SGRTODAY.COM'S BARLOW HERGET HAS BEEN FOLLOWING THE STORY AND GAVE BRIAN FREEMAN DETAILS. PA

MARCH 19 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW-FIONA KEARNS HALLORAN ON HER NEW BIOGRAPHY OF POLITICAL CARTOONIST THOMAS NAST-PA

MARCH 20 – REPUBLICANS IN THE STATE SENATE HAVE FILED A BILL THAT PAVES A WAY FOR ONSHORE AND OFFSHORE DRILLING BY 2015. PROTESTORS TOOK A STAND AGAINST THIS "FRACKING" BILL LAST NIGHT OUTSIDE THE LEGISLATIVE BUILDING. ABC 11'S FRED SHROPSHIRE TELLS US WHAT HAPPENED. PA

RE – Religion, Civil Service & Social Climate

JANUARY 17 – ARE WE FOCUSING ON THE WRONG THING SUCH AS GUNS AND GUN CONTROL, INSTEAD OF FOCUSING ON EXACTLY WHAT'S GOING ON IN OUR SOCIETY THAT IS CAUSING VIOLENT ACTIVITY? DR. JOHN MCTERNAN, OF DEFEND AND CLAIM THE FAITH DOT ORG, TALKED WITH DOUG KELLETT OF THE MORNING DRIVE AND SHARES HIS THOUGHTS ON THE ISSUE. RE

JANUARY 22 – GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY DELIVERED THE KEYNOTE SPEECH ON MONDAY MORNING WHERE HUNDREDS GATHERED IN DURHAM FOR THE ANNUAL INTERFAITH PRAYER BREAKFAST HONORING DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JUNIOR. WPTF'S MARLA ROTH REPORTS ON WHAT THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVISTS OF TODAY MIGHT ASK OF THE NEW GOVERNOR. RE

JANUARY 24 – MILITARY WOMEN COULD SOON BE MOVING TO THE FRONT LINE. SENIOR DEFENSE OFFICIALS SAY PENTAGON CHIEF LEON PANETTA IS REMOVING THE MILITARY'S BAN ON WOMEN SERVING IN COMBAT, AND HE'S EXPECTED TO MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT TODAY. BRIAN FREEMAN SPOKE WITH CBS MILITARY ANALYST JEFF MCCAUSLAND. RE

JANUARY 29 – MANY OF US -- AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER -- MAY HAVE SAID, "I'M NOT GOING MAKE THE SAME MISTAKES MADE BY MY MOTHER OR MY FATHER," BUT ARE WE

GENETICALLY CODED TO REPEAT THEIR MISTAKES? IS HOW WE RELATE TO OTHERS
DICTATED BY OUR INNATE NATURE OR HOW WE WERE RAISED? WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE
WITH DR. GARY MALONE, A PSYCHIATRIST AND AUTHOR WHO HAS ADDRESSED THE
QUESTION IN A NEW BOOK. RE

JANUARY 30 – HAVE YOU HEARD OF TWITTERS NEW VIDEO APP CALLED VINE? TREND AND
TECH GURU GREGG STEBBEN TALKED TO BRIAN FREEMAN ABOUT THIS NEW APP. RE
FEBRUARY 4 – CHRIS CULLER, 49ERS CORNERBACK, MADE HEADLINES WITH ANTI-GAY
REMARKS AND WILL TAKE SENSITIVITY TRAINING AND EDUCATION CLASSES NOW THAT THAT
SUPER BOWL IS OVER. COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR LISA MARSHALL TALKS WITH MORNING
DRIVE HOST DOUG KELLETT ON CULLER'S COMMENTS AND ANSWERS THE QUESTION, ARE
THERE SOME QUESTIONS THAT ARE BETTER LEFT UNANSWERED? RE

FEBRUARY 4 – RALEIGH'S FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN POLICE CHIEF IS ON THE BEAT.. ..CAITLIN
KNUTE WITH ABC11 HAD A CHANCE TO TALK WITH CASSANDRA DECK-BROWN. RE

FEBRUARY 5 – THE DEATH TOLLS RISE AND IT'S BECOME A UNWRITTEN EPIDEMIC... AT LEAST
UNTIL NOW. STAR OF THE NEW BOOK, BY JOHN BARE-LICK ENTITLED "KILLER SHOW" AND
SURVIVOR OF THE RHODE ISLAND CLUB FIRE IN 2003, LINDA FISHER, JOINS DOUG KELLETT TO
TELL HER ACCOUNT AND MAKE PEOPLE AWARE OF THESE SHOCKING EVENTS. RE

FEBRUARY 5 – A CHARLOTTE MAN WHO MADE A DORITOS COMMERCIAL ON A SHOESTRING
BUDGET IS THE WINNER OF A NATIONAL COMPETITION. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TALKED
TO MARK FRYBURGER ABOUT COMPETING WITH HEAVY-HITTING AD CAMPAIGNS ON SUPER
SUNDAY. RE

FEBRUARY 6 – TUESDAY (IS/WAS) THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAFER INTERNET DAY. AND
DESPITE KNOWN ONLINE RISKS, INTERNET CONSUMERS STILL ARE NOT DOING ENOUGH TO
PROTECT THEMSELVES. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH JACQUELINE BEAUCHERE (BOE-
SHARE) -- THE CHIEF ONLINE SAFETY OFFICER AT MICROSOFT -- TO FIND OUT ABOUT WHAT
THE SOFTWARE GIANT IS SAYING CONSUMERS SHOULD BE DOING TO BETTER PROTECT
THEIR PERSONAL INFORMATION AT HOME AND ON MOBILE DEVICES. RE

FEBRUARY 6 – TODAY MARKS THE 9TH ANNIVERSARY OF FACEBOOK. SO HOW HAS THE ON-
LINE FRIEND CONNECTION SERVICE CHANGED OUR LIVES? BRIAN FREEMAN GETS THE
ANSWER FROM TREND AND TECH GURU GREGG STEBBEN. RE

FEBRUARY 6 – FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH, AND ALL THIS MONTH WE'RE BRINGING
YOU STORIES FROM NORTH CAROLINA'S BLACK HISTORY. GAYLE HURD TELLS US ABOUT
LIBBA COTTON, A NORTH CAROLINA SINGER, SONGWRITER AND INNOVATIVE MUSICIAN. RE

FEBRUARY 7 – FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH, AND ALL THIS MONTH WE'RE BRINGING
YOU STORIES FROM NORTH CAROLINA'S BLACK HISTORY. RON PENNY TELLS US ABOUT
JAMES CITY, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "MECCA OF FREEDOM." RE

FEBRUARY 7 – JUST ABOUT EVERYONE IS CONNECTED IN CYBERSPACE IN ONE WAY OR
ANOTHER. FROM SMARTPHONES TO TABLETS AND LAPTOPS, WE'RE ALL LOOKING FOR NEW
TECHNOLOGY. A NEW FORECAST FROM CISCO FINDS THAT WON'T BE CHANGING IN THE
YEARS AHEAD.. BRUCE FERRELL GOT THE LATEST FROM GEIZELLE STANCIK FROM CISCO. RE

FEBRUARY 8 – IF THERE WAS EVER A DAY TO LAUGH OUT LOUD, TODAY'S THAT DAY. AND PUT
THOSE BROKEN NEEDLES AWAY AND TAKE A REST. BE SURE TO SALUTE YOUR BOY SCOUTS
AS WELL. HERE'S KERRI DAVIS WITH MORE ON TODAY'S HOLIDAYS. RE

FEBRUARY 11 – WHILE THE HOLIDAYS ARE FAR BEHIND US, THE TOY SEASON IS ONLY
BEGINNING. SO, WHAT ARE THE POPULAR TOYS THAT CHILDREN WILL BE SNATCHING OFF

THE SELVES THIS YEAR? CHRIS BYRNE, THE "TOY GUY" AND CONTENT DIRECTOR FOR TIME-TO-PLAY-MAG-DOT-COM, HAS THE ANSWER FOR BRANDON DICKSON. RE

FEBRUARY 11 – POPE BENEDICT HAS ANNOUNCED AND THE VATICAN HAS CONFIRMED THAT HE WILL STEP DOWN AT THE END OF THE MONTH. MORE FROM VICKI BARKER AT THE FOREIGN DESK. RE

FEBRUARY 12 – POPE BENEDICT IS RETIRING, BUT CAN HE DO THAT? TO WHOM WOULD HE TURN IN HIS RESIGNATION INTO? JOHN MCTERNAN, RELIGIOUS EXPERT AND ACTIVISTS AT "DEFEND AND CLAIM THE FAITH.ORG", STOPS IN TO SHED SOME INSIGHT ON THE MATTER ON THE MORNING DRIVE WITH DOUG KELLETT. RE

FEBRUARY 12 – THE KKK IS A HATE GROUP THAT IS SYNONYMOUS WITH THE UGLIER SIDE OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ERA. THOUGH MOST OF THE GROUPS HAVE GONE, THERE ARE FACTIONS THAT STILL REMAIN AND HAVE EVOLVED AND NORTH CAROLINA HAS A LARGE SHARE OF CLANSMEN. AUTHOR OF THE BOOK "KLANSVILLE, U.S.A." DAVID CUNNINGHAM EXPLAINS SOME OF HIS FINDINGS TO "CBS THIS MORNING". RE

FEBRUARY 12 – THE SURPRISING RESIGNATION OF POPE BENEDICT -- THE FIRST RESIGNATION OF A PONTIFF IN MORE THAN 600 YEARS -- HAS LED TO WIDESPREAD REACTION - RICK MARTINEZ TALKED TO BISHOP MICHAEL BURBIDGE OF THE RALEIGH DIOCESE AS THE COLLEGE OF CARDINALS WILL START THE TASK OF CHOOSING A SUCCESSOR. RE

FEBRUARY 15 – AFTER NOT RECEIVING NOTIFICATION OF HER LEGALLY DEAD SPOUSE, A LESBIAN WIDOW IS PUSHING FOR MILITARY BENEFITS. NATIONALLY KNOWN ATTORNEY JOHN PATTI, STOPS IN TO THE MORNING DRIVE WITH DOUG KELLET TO SHED SOME LIGHT ON THE STORY. RE

FEBRUARY 22 – THE AMERICAN RED CROSS RESPONDED TO THAT HUGE APARTMENT FIRE IN DURHAM WEDNESDAY NIGHT THAT LEFT MORE THAN 60 MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN WITHOUT HOMES. WPTF'S MARLA ROTH SPOKE WITH THE LEAD DISASTER SPECIALIST BETH WALDEN, ABOUT THE RESPONSE EFFORT. RE

FEBRUARY 28 – WITH SPRING JUST WEEKS AWAY, IT MEANS WARMER TEMPERATURES AND SPRING BREAKS ARE JUST AROUND THE CORNER. IT ALSO MEANS MANY AMERICANS ARE PLANNING FOR A SPRING VACATION. BUT, A RECENT POLL SHOWS THE MAJORITY OF US AREN'T CEASING THE PROPER DEALS. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH TRAE BODGE, SENIOR EDITOR OF RETAIL-ME-NOT-DOT-COM'S REAL DEAL ONLINE MAGAZINE, TO DISCUSS THE POLL RESULTS AND HOW TO FIND AN AFFORDABLE VACATION. RE

MARCH 1 – THE NORTH CAROLINA BAR ASSOCIATION AND THE NORTH CAROLINA BAR ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION ARE HOSTING THE SIXTH ANNUAL 4ALL STATEWIDE SERVICE DAY ASK-A-LAWYER EVENT TODAY UNTIL 7:00 P.M. BRIAN FREEMAN GOT DETAILS FROM TREY LINDLEY. RE

MARCH 14 – A WOMAN FROM ARGENTINA WHO NOW LIVES IN THE TRIANGLE HAS CONNECTIONS TO THE NEW PONTIFF. HER MOTHER WAS TEACHING IN A SCHOOL IN BUENOS AIRES SEVERAL YEARS WHEN SHE MET CARDINAL JORGE BERGOGLIO. ABC 11'S ANGELICA ALVAREZ SAYS SHE RECEIVED A CALL FROM HER MOTHER WHEN THE NEW POPE WAS ELECTED. RE

MARCH 14 – CATHOLICS AROUND THE WORLD ARE REACTING THE APPOINTMENT OF A JESUIT CARDINAL FROM ARGENTINA TO LEAD THE CHURCH. BISHOP MICHAEL BURBAGE OF RALEIGH SAYS HE IS AWARE OF HE SOME OF THE READINGS AND TEACHINGS OF FRANCIS. RE

MARCH 14 – RACIAL SLURS ARE PROBLEMATIC ... AND RESEARCH FINDS THEY'RE OCCURRING WHERE WE WORK. IN THE FIRST OF SEVERAL STUDIES, DATA SHOWED THAT WHITE MEN WERE MORE LIKELY THAN OTHERS TO HEAR RACIAL EPITHETS ON THE JOB ... THEY ALSO WERE LEAST LIKELY TO SPEAK OUT ABOUT IT. ASHLEIGH ROSETTE AT DUKE'S FUQUA SCHOOL OF BUSINESS IS CO-AUTHOR OF A NEW PAPER THAT COMBINES THE MULTI-STUDY FINDINGS, AND IN PART II OF OUR IN-DEPTH LOOK AT THE DATA, ROSETTE TELLS WPTF'S JOSH ZACH WHAT WAS DISCOVERED IN THE SUBSEQUENT STUDIES ON THE SOCIAL AND MORAL TABOO. RE

MARCH 14 – WHILE STORING YOUR PERSONAL DATA ON THE ICLOUD MIGHT SEEM LIKE A GOOD IDEA, SOME EXPERTS ARE EXPRESSING THEIR DOUBTS. TREND AND TECH GURU GREGG STEBBEN TALKS WITH BRIAN FREEMAN AND ANSWERS THE QUESTION: HOW SECURE IS THE CLOUD? RE

MARCH 15 – THE ELECTION OF AN ARGENTINE POPE MEANS THE WORLD CURRENTLY HAS ITS FIRST NON-EUROPEAN POPE IN 1,200 YEARS. WPTF'S PATRICK JOHNSON IS IN DOWNTOWN RALEIGH AND HE HAS REACTION FROM TWO WOMEN, WHOSE FAMILY ARE FROM ARGENTINA. RE

MARCH 18 – COULD THE NEWLY ELECTED POPE BE THE LAST ONE? A NEW STUDY OF PAPAL PROPHECY REVEALS THAT POPE FRANCIS MAY BE THE FINAL POPE. TALKRADIO 850'S BILL LUMAYE TALKED WITH CHRIS PUTNAM- AUTHOR OF "PETRUS ROMANUS: THE FINAL POPE" TO GET HIS THOUGHTS. RE

MARCH 19 – A MEREDITH COLLEGE PROFESSOR IS DETAILING THE STATUS OF GIRLS IN NORTH CAROLINA IN A NEW REPORT. WPTF'S STEPHANIE HAWCO TALKED TO AMIE HESS, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SOCIOLOGY ABOUT WHERE GIRLS ARE GAINING AND WHERE THEY STILL NEED SOME HELP. RE

MARCH 22 – GREEN STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IN WINSTON-SALEM ANNOUNCED IT WILL STOP PERFORMING ALL MARRIAGES UNTIL PASTORS ARE ALLOWED TO OFFICIATE MARRIAGES FOR SAME-SEX COUPLES. WPTF'S PATRICK JOHNSON TELLS US, THERE WAS A CHURCH IN RALEIGH THAT MADE THE SAME DECISION NEARLY TWO YEARS AGO, MAKING GREEN STREET UNITED ONLY THE SECOND CHURCH IN THE STATE TO ADOPT THIS POLICY. RE

MARCH 26 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW-NATURE WRITER PAM BECK -THE PLANTS OF THE EASTER SEASON AND THEIR SYMBOLISM. RE

MARCH 28 – SAME-SEX MARRIAGE... YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE IT WOULD AFFECT YOUR EVERYDAY CHOICES IN PRODUCTS, BUT IT ACTUALLY DOES... WITH THE RISE OF COMPANIES SPEAKING OUT EITHER FOR OR AGAINST SAME-SEX MARRIAGE, CONSUMER ARE CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF AN ETHICAL WAR. DOUG GRAHAM, A FORMER BUSH ADMINISTRATOR SPEECHWRITER, TALKED WITH DOUG KELLETT OF THE MORNING DRIVE ABOUT THE TRUTH BEHIND BIG BUSINESS THEY MAY SWAY THE CHOICE CONSUMERS WILL HAVE TO MAKE. RE

SP – Sports/Games/Races

JANUARY 2 – HIS NEW TEAM LOST THE MUSIC CITY BOWL ON MONDAY TO VANDERBILT. LAST NIGHT, HIS OLD TEAM, NORTHERN ILLINOIS, LOST THE ORANGE BOWL AGAINST FLORIDA STATE. FOR BOTH GAMES, HE WAS NOTHING MORE THAN A SPECTATOR. NOW, WITH THE GAMES DONE AND OVER WITH, IT'S TIME FOR NEW WOLFPACK HEAD FOOTBALL COACH DAVE DOEREN TO GET TO WORK BUILDING WHAT DEBBIE YOW WANTS: A TOP 25 PROGRAM. RECENTLY DOEREN OPENING UP TO DAVID GLENN OF THE ACC SPORT JOURNAL THE COMBINATION OF FACTORS THAT LED TO HIS DECISION TO LEAVE NORTHERN ILLINOIS FOR NC STATE. SP

JANUARY 11 – CAROLINA HURRICANES PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER, JIM RUTHERFORD, HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE ON THURSDAY WITH HEAD COACH KIRK MULLER TO TALK ABOUT THE END OF THE NHL LOCKOUT. MULLER KNOWS ABOUT THE PRESSURE OF COMPETING IN A SHORTENED SEASON HE CAPTAINED THE MONTREAL CANADIANS DURING THE 1994-95 SEASON, WHICH WAS CUT TO 48 GAMES DUE TO A LABOR DISPUTE. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE ONE-ON-ONE WITH "CAPTAIN KIRK" TO GET A FEEL FOR WHAT LAY AHEAD IN PREPARING FOR THE DROP OF THE PUCK, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO GET UNDERWAY NEXT WEEKEND. SP

JANUARY 14 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW -BILL LAWANDTONY RIGGSBEE OF THE RALEIGH HOT STOVE LEAGUE-BASEBALL AND THE HOT STOVE LEAGUE'S AWARDS BANQUET – SP

JANUARY 15 – WHILE MUCH OF THE COLLEGE BASKETBALL FOCUS IN THE TRIANGLE IS ON THE MEN'S SIDE, THERE'S QUITE A FEW TALENTED WOMEN'S TEAMS AS WELL. ONE OF THOSE IS THE CAROLINA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON SPOKE WITH THE TAR HEELS HEAD COACH, SYLVIA HATCHELL, ABOUT THEIR STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES SO FAR, AND A SPECIAL GAME LATER THIS YEAR. SP

JANUARY 21 – THE MANTI TE'O STORY: GIRLFRIEND THEN NO GIRLFRIEND, REAL OR FAKE, SCAM AND SCANDAL... WITH NEW INFORMATION COMING OUT DAILY IT'S CONFUSING... MORNING DRIVE DOUG KELLETT CHATS WITH SPORTSCASTER ERICK STONE TO CLEAR UP THE MANTI TE'O CONTROVERSY AND IF THE WITH HOLDING OF ALL THE INFORMATION ON THE PART OF NOTRE DAME COULD LEAD TO BEING LIABLE OF NCAA VIOLATIONS. SP

JANUARY 21 – FORMER NC STATE FOOTBALL COACH TOM O BRIEN IS OFFERING SOME COMMENTS ABOUT HIS FORMER EMPLOYER .. HE SPOKE WITH REPORTERS IN HIS ROLE AS AN ASSISTANT COACH FOR VIRGINIA... AND SAID HE BELIEVES HE ACCOMPLISHED MUCH WHILE IN CHARGE OF THE WOLFPACK PROGRAM. SP

JANUARY 22 – A LOCAL GROUP OF SPORTS-MINDED BUSINESSMEN ANNOUNCED THEY PLAN TO REVAMP A 145,000 SQUARE FOOT FACILITY IN APEX, AND BRING TO RTP THE NATION'S FIRST EXTREME SPORTS ADRENALINE PARK WITH MORE THAN A DOZEN ATTRACTIONS. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH MYLES OWENS III -- ONE OF THE PRINCIPALS INVOLVED IN THE VENTURE -- TO FIND OUT WHAT THEY'RE PLANNING FOR THE FACILITY, AND WHEN NORTH CAROLINA'S X-GAMES ENTHUSIASTS CAN START TESTING THEIR HIGH-ENERGY SPORTS MEDDLE . SP

FEBRUARY 4 – LAST WEEK NC HOUSE SPEAKER THOM TILLIS AND GOV. PAT MCCRORY MET WITH CAROLINA PANTHERS TEAM OWNER JERRY RICHARDSON AS HE PURSUES MONEY FOR IMPROVEMENTS OF THE 17-YEAR OLD STADIUM. THE PANTHERS AHVE ASKED THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE FOR \$125 MILLION AND HOPE TO SPLIT THE REST WITH THE STATE. TILLIS SAID HE CANNOT SUPPORT USING STATE TAX DOLLARS TO RENOVATE THE STADIUM. HE TALKS WITH BILL LUMAYE ON THE MEETING WITH THE GOVERNOR AND HIS REMARKS ON THE STADIUM. SP

MARCH 14 – THE 60TH ACC TOURNAMENT TIPS OFF THURSDAY IN GREENSBORO...FOR A PREVIEW WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN SPOKE WITH DAVID GLENN OF THE ACC SPORTS JOURNAL. SP

MARCH 19 – WE KNOW THAT DUKE, N-C STATE AND U-N-C ARE IN THE BIG DANCE, BEGINNING FRIDAY, BUT OTHER TEAMS ARE PLAYING IN THE POST-SEASON. NCN SPORTS ANCHOR PATRICK JOHNSON HAS A RUN DOWN OF THE OTHER STATE SCHOOLS STILL PLAYING FOR A CHAMPIONSHIP. SP

MARCH 25 – THE DUKE-CREIGHTON GAME DIDN'T END UNTIL AROUND MID-NIGHT LAST NIGHT... IN CASE YOU MISSED IT, DUKE BEAT THE BLUE JAYS, 66-TO-50 TO EARN THEIR FOURTH SWEET 16 APPEARANCE IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS... ABC 11'S SPORTS DIRECTOR MARK ARMSTRONG IS IN PHILADELPHIA. SP

MARCH 25 – CONCUSSIONS IN THE NFL ARE BAD, BUT FOOTBALL HAS ALWAYS BEEN A PRETTY VIOLENT SPORT... NOW COMMISSIONER ROGER GOODALE IS PROPOSING A NEW HELMET FOR THE NFL PLAYERS TO WEAR. ERIK STONE, A PENNSYLVANIA SPORTSCASTER, JOINS DOUG KELLETT, HOST OF THE MORNING DRIVE, TO BREAK DOWN WHAT MIGHT BE CALLED THE FEMINIZATION OF THE NFL. SP

WPTF also airs public affairs programming produced by stategovernmentradio.com.

Sunday - Carolina Newsmakers airs from 7 to 8 a.m. and People in Politics airs from 9 to 10 a.m.

Carolina Newsmakers and People in Politics (All PA)

People in Politics and Carolina Newsmakers are both 60-minute programs.

PA BLOCK FOR 1-6-13

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

THE NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATIC PARTY IS LOOKING TO CHART A NEW COURSE AFTER A DISASTROUS TWO YEARS OF LOSSES THAT MARGINALIZED THE PARTY TO MINORITY STATUS IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND PUT DEMOCRATS OUT OF THE GOVERNOR AND LT. GOVERNOR SEATS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN DECADES. ONE KEY TO REGAINING POWER IS ELECTING A NEW PARTY CHAIRMAN, WHICH THE DEMOCRATS' EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WILL DO IN EARLY FEBRUARY. HOST DONNA MARTINEZ TALKS TO ONE OF THE TWO MEN WHO'VE SAID THEY WANT THE JOB – OUTGOING STATE SEN. ERIC MANSFIELD OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY. HE TELLS MARTINEZ WHY HE'S RUNNING, WHAT THE PARTY MUST DO TO REPAIR INTERNAL FRACTURING, AND WHAT THE PARTY MUST COMMUNICATE TO NORTH CAROLINIANS IN FUTURE ELECTIONS. MANSFIELD'S DECLARED OPPONENT IS PITTSBORO MAYOR RANDY VOLLER. THEN WE HEAR FROM GOV.-ELECT PAT MCCRORY, WHO PAINTED A SOBERING ECONOMIC PICTURE FOR THE STATE IN REMARKS HE MADE AT THE ECONOMIC FORECAST FORUM SPONSORED BY THE N.C. BANKERS ASSOCIATION AND THE N.C. CHAMBER. THAT'S FOLLOWED BY A LOOK AT SEVERAL OF MCCRORY'S KEY APPOINTMENTS TO CABINET POSITIONS. RICK HENDERSON OF CAROLINA JOURNAL PROVIDES THE PROFILE OF THE NEW SECRETARIES FOR MARTINEZ. NEXT IS A DISCUSSION ABOUT OUTGOING NORTH CAROLINA CONGRESSMAN BRAD MILLER'S COMMENTS AS HE LEAVES CONGRESS. THE DEMOCRAT SPOKE TO SLATE.COM AND REFLECTED ON THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION'S LACK OF UNDERSTANDING OF THE TEA PARTY MOVEMENT. HE ALSO TOOK A SWIPE AT WHAT HE CHARACTERIZED AS THE POLITICAL GAMESMANSHIP OF CONSERVATIVE DEMOCRATS. RICK MARTINEZ JOINS DONNA MARTINEZ FOR THE BRAD MILLER DISCUSSION. THEN WE TURN TO ACCOLADES FOR FORMER NORTH CAROLINA REPUBLICAN PARTY CHAIRMAN TOM FETZER BY A POLITICAL TRADE MAGAZINE. DONNA MARTINEZ REVISITS ANALYSIS OF FETZER'S LOBBYING SUCCESSES WITH RAN COBLE OF THE NORTH CAROLINA CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH.

****ISSUES COVERED: THE NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATIC PARTY; N.C. ECONOMY; OBAMACARE, HEALTH CARE, AND HEALTH INSURANCE; STATE DEBT TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT; NC COUNCIL OF STATE OFFICES; LOBBYING****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH LEW EBERT", PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE NORTH CAROLINA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

****ISSUES COVERED: BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY; JOB CREATION; NC ECONOMY; RURAL/URBAN AREAS OF NORTH CAROLINA; EMPLOYMENT/UNEMPLOYMENT; EDUCATION AND THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM; NC GDP GROWTH PROJECTIONS; MANUFACTURING; SMALL BUSINESS JOBS; SUPPORT INDUSTRIES; POPULATION GROWTH; PRO-BUSINESS LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP AND SAME STANCE PROJECTED FROM INCOMING GOVERNOR; WORKER'S COMPENSATION; NORTH CAROLINA'S BUSINESS CLIMATE AND MAKING NORTH CAROLINA MORE COMPETITIVE WITH OTHER STATES; REGULATORY GUIDELINES FOR NORTH CAROLINA; ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS; NC STATE TAX INCENTIVES; THE RURAL CENTER; REGIONAL ECONOMIC STRATEGIES; STATE REQUIREMENT OF A BALANCED BUDGET; THE EFFECT OF THE RECESSION ON NORTH CAROLINA'S DEBT; NORTH CAROLINA'S 2.8 BILLION DOLLAR DEFICIT TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT; IMPROVING THE STATE'S INFRASTRUCTURE; LOBBYING AT THE NC STATE LEGISLATURE****

PA BLOCK FOR 01-13-13

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

IT'S BEEN A HUGE WEEK FOR NEW GOV. PAT MCCRORY, INCLUDING HIS FIRST CABINET MEETING, A NEWS CONFERENCE, MULTIPLE OPEN HOUSES AND PARTIES – ALL LEADING UP THIS WEEKEND'S INAUGURATION AND PARADE. BUT IT ALL BEGAN WITH THE OFFICIAL SWEARING-IN CEREMONY THAT FEATURED THE CEREMONIAL PASSING OF THE STATE SEAL FROM GOV. BEVERLY PERDUE TO MCCRORY AS WELL AS THE OFFICIAL OATH. YOU'LL HEAR IT, ALONG WITH PART OF MCCRORY'S NEWS CONFERENCE AT WHICH HE ANNOUNCED HIS FIRST EXECUTIVE ORDER, RETURNING TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL DICTATE ON JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS, AND ON HIS CONCERNS OVER THE STATE'S PROBLEM-PLAGUED COMPUTER SYSTEM. THEN WE TURN TO THE SWEARING-IN OF THE SECOND IN COMMAND, LT. GOV. DAN FOREST, WHOSE OATH WAS WITNESSED BY HIS MOTHER, FORMER NORTH CAROLINA CONGRESSWOMAN SUE MYRICK. THAT'S FOLLOWED BY THE SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF THE FIRST DAY OF THE NEW GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION. STEPHANIE HAWCO OF NEWSRADIO 680 WPTF IN RALEIGH TALKS WITH REPUBLICANS AND DEMOCRATS ABOUT THEIR EXPECTATIONS FOR A SESSION THAT FEATURES AN EVEN GREATER REPUBLICAN MAJORITY. HOST DONNA MARTINEZ ALSO PROVIDES DETAILS ON SOME OF THE ACTION IN BOTH CHAMBERS ON THAT DAY. FOLLOWING ELECTION OF LEADERS, LEGISLATORS GAVELED OUT WITH A PLAN TO RETURN JANUARY 30. THEN MARTINEZ TALKS WITH ONE OF THE TWO MEN SEEKING TO LEAD THE NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATIC PARTY, PITTSBORO MAYOR RANDY VOLLER, WHO DISCUSSES HIS BELIEFS, LEADERSHIP STYLE, AND CHALLENGE FACING DEMOCRATS. THAT'S FOLLOWED BY A LOOK AT FORMER GOV. MIKE EASLEY, WHO HAS APPLIED TO HAVE HIS LAW LICENSE REINSTATED FOLLOWING IT SUSPENSION AFTER HE PLED GUILTY TO A FELONY COUNT RELATED TO CAMPAIGN FINANCE VIOLATIONS. RICK MARTINEZ OF NEWSRADIO 680 WPTF IN RALEIGH, NCN NEWS, AND SGRTODAY.COM JOINS DONNA MARTINEZ TO DISCUSS WHETHER THE EASLEY CAMPAIGN WILL EVER PAY THE REMAINING \$94,000 FINE LEVIED BY THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS.

****ISSUES COVERED: STATE GOVERNMENT; SWEARING-IN CEREMONY FOR INCOMING GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY; NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY; RESTRUCTURING THE STATE TAX CODE; STATE REVENUE; PUBLIC EDUCATION; VOTER ID; FRACKING; LEADERSHIP FOR THE NC DEMOCRATIC PARTY; 2013 PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH ANDY ALLEN", PRESIDENT OF THE NORTH CAROLINA RETAIL MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

****ISSUES COVERED: LOBBYING; RETAIL BUSINESS; MODERNIZING THE STATE TAX CODE; SALES TAXES, INCOME TAXES, AND TAX REVENUES; TAX RATES; TAXING INTERNET SALES; STATE GOVERNMENT AND THE NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY; GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS ON BUSINESSES; JOB CREATION, JOB DEVELOPMENT, AND WORKFORCE TRAINING; TRANSPORTATION; ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; TOLL ROADS; KEEPING BUSINESSES IN NORTH CAROLINA****

PA BLOCK FOR 01-20-13

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

WITH HIS WIFE ANN LOOKING ON, FORMER CHARLOTTE MAYOR PAT MCCRORY WAS OFFICIALLY INAUGURATED THE 74TH GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA AND THE THE FIRST REPUBLICAN TO HOLD THE SEAT IN MORE THAN 20 YEARS. YOU'LL HEAR PART OF HIS INAUGURAL SPEECH, INCLUDING HIS VISION FOR A RENEWED NORTH CAROLINA, AS WELL AS HIS EMOTIONAL REMARKS ABOUT HIS LATE FATHER'S INFLUENCE ON HIS LIFE. IT HAS ALREADY BEEN AN EVENTFUL TERM FOR THE NEW GOVERNOR. MCCRORY HAD BARELY TAKEN OFFICE WHEN A FIRE BROKE OUT IN A DOWNTOWN RALEIGH STATE GOVERNMENT BUILDING. STEPHANIE HAWCO OF NEWSRADIO680 WPTF IN RALEIGH TALKS WITH MCCRORY AND KEY AIDES ABOUT THE FIRE AND WHY IT HAS BROUGHT FORTH AN UNEXPECTED ISSUE FOR THE NEW GOVERNOR: THE UPKEEP OF STATE PROPERTY. THAT'S FOLLOWED BY A LOOK AT THE ALLEGATIONS BEING MADE AGAINST STATE SEN. FLETCHER HARTSELL OF CONCORD. THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS IS LOOKING INTO ALLEGATIONS THAT THE REPUBLICAN LAWMAKER USED CAMPAIGN FUNDS TO PAY OFF PERSONAL CREDIT CARDS. HOST DONNA MARTINEZ IS JOINED BY RICK MARTINEZ OF NCN NEWS, SGRTODAY.COM, AND NEWSRADIO 680 WPTF IN RALEIGH FOR A LOOK AT THE STORY, AS WELL AS TO ANALYZE CRITICISM OF THE RAISES MCCRORY GAVE TO SEVERAL NEW CABINET SECRETARIES. THEN WE TURN TO A LEGISLATIVE PREVIEW. BECKI GRAY OF THE JOHN LOCKE FOUNDATION JOINS DONNA MARTINEZ TO DISCUSS THE EXPECTED PRIORITIES LIST FOR THE NEW LEGISLATURE, WHICH RECONVENES IN RALEIGH ON JAN. 30. GRAY ALSO REVIEWS THE KEY PLAYERS IN BOTH CHAMBERS.

****ISSUES COVERED: NC GUBERNATORIAL INAUGURATION; STATE GOVERNMENT; POSSIBLE MISUSE OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS; GOVERNOR MCCRORY'S RAISES TO NC CABINET SECRETARIES; NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY; ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS; THOM TILLIS RE-ELECTED AS HOUSE SPEAKER; PHIL BERGER RE-ELECTED AS STATE SENATE PRESIDENT PRO-TEM****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH JUNE ATKINSON", NORTH CAROLINA STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

****ISSUES COVERED: SCHOOL SAFETY; SAFETY RESOURCE OFFICERS; GUN CONTROL LEGISLATION; MENTAL HEALTH; IMPROVING STUDENT BEHAVIOR; PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY; SCHOOL SAFETY PLANS; DRUG ACTIVITY, ALCOHOL USE AMONG PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS; PUBLIC EDUCATION; PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION; GRADUATION RATES; EMPHASIS ON READING AND MATHEMATICS; EXPANDING BANDWIDTH FOR INTERNET SERVICES IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS; DISTANCE EDUCATION; POPULATION SHIFTS

IN URBAN/RURAL AREAS OF NORTH CAROLINA; NORTH CAROLINA HISTORY; OFFERING FOREIGN LANGUAGE CLASSES IN ELEMENTARY THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL YEARS; EFFECTIVENESS OF TEACHERS AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT; INTERACTION WITH THE NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY; KEEPING GREAT TEACHERS IN THE CLASSROOM AND INCREASING TEACHER'S SALARIES; STUDENT ASSIGNMENT IN POPULATED AREAS OF N.C. ****

PA BLOCK FOR 01-27-13

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

WHEN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENES ON WEDNESDAY, JAN. 30, THE REPUBLICAN MAJORITIES IN BOTH HOUSES ARE EXPECTED TO MOVE QUICKLY ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES, INCLUDING TAX REFORM, EDUCATION REFORM, REGULATORY REFORM, AND REQUIRING A PHOTO I.D. TO VOTE. ROB CHRISTENSEN OF THE RALEIGH NEWS & OBSERVER TALKS WITH HOST DONNA MARTINEZ ABOUT WHAT HIS CRYSTAL BALL IS SHOWING FOR THE SESSION. WHEN VOTER I.D. IS INTRODUCED, AS MANY BELIEVE IT WILL BE, YOU CAN COUNT ON THE NORTH CAROLINA NAACP TO BE VOCAL IN ITS OPPOSITION. THE GROUP BEGAN TO MAKE ITS CASE IN A NEWS CONFERENCE. YOU'LL HEAR THE REV. WILLIAM BARBER'S REMARKS AND HIS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE LEGISLATURE. THEN RICK MARTINEZ OF NCN NEWS, SGRTODAY.COM, AND NEWSRADIO 680 WPTF IN RALEIGH JOINS DONNA MARTINEZ TO TALK MORE ABOUT THE PROSPECTS FOR A VOTER I.D. BILL, AS WELL AS THE TUG-OF-WAR BETWEEN ATTORNEY GENERAL ROY COOPER AND NEW LT. GOV. DAN FOREST OVER DRIVERS LICENSES FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS, AND THE PROSPECT FOR STATE DEMOCRATS IN RE-ELECTING SEN. KAY HAGAN TO THE U.S. SENATE IN 2014. THAT'S FOLLOWED BY GOV. PAT MCCRORY'S REMARKS TO A DURHAM GATHERING ON THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY IN WHICH MCCRORY RECALLS GROWING UP IN NORTH CAROLINA AND THE LEGACY OF DR. KING. AND FINALLY, PRESIDENT OBAMA WAS SWORN IN FOR HIS SECOND TERM AS THE 44TH PRESIDENT. YOU'LL HEAR HIS SPEECH TO THE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS WHO GATHERED IN WASHINGTON D.C. TO MARK THE OCCASION.

****ISSUES COVERED: STATE GOVERNMENT; NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY; VOTER ID; UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DEBT; NC SENATE SEAT CURRENTLY HELD BY SENATOR KAY HAGAN; NAACP'S OPPOSITION TO VOTER ID; ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION AND NC DRIVER'S LICENSES FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS; 2014 NC SENATE RACE; MARTIN LUTHER KING HOLIDAY; EMPLOYMENT/UNEMPLOYMENT; JOB CREATION; EDUCATION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH CONGRESSMAN DAVID PRICE"

****ISSUES COVERED: REDISTRICTING; SCHOOL SAFETY; GUN CONTROL, GUN SAFETY, AND CRIME CONTROL; THE BRADY BILL; BACKGROUND CHECKS; 2ND AMENDMENT RIGHTS; THE POSSIBILITY OF BANNING ASSAULT WEAPONS; HOMELAND SECURITY; THE FISCAL CLIFF; ECONOMIC RECOVERY; FEDERAL DEFICIT REDUCTION; U.S. DISCRETIONARY SPENDING; REDUCED MILITARY SPENDING AND ITS EFFECT ON NORTH CAROLINA; ON-LINE SALES TAXES AND LOST REVENUE FOR N.C.; THE FARM BILL AND FEDERAL SUBSIDIES; REFORMING IMMIGRATION POLICY****

PA BLOCK FOR 02-03-13

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY RECONVENED AND IMMEDIATELY GONE TO BUSINESS, WITH BILLS FILED ON MEDICAID, TERM LIMITS FOR CHAMBER LEADERS, EUGENICS COMPENSATION, A CRIME LAB FOR WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA AND MORE. STEPHANIE HAWCO PROFILES THE WHIRLWIND FIRST DAY AND THE POWER DYNAMICS IN A BODY NOW DOMINATED BY REPUBLICANS. THEN WE HEAR ABOUT N.C. HOUSE PRIORITIES FROM HOUSE SPEAKER THOM TILLIS, REPUBLICAN OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY. TILLIS DISCUSSES TAX REFORM, ENERGY, HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING IN LIGHT OF RECENT COMMENTS BY GOV. PAT MCCRORY, THE STATE'S UNEMPLOYMENT DEBT, AND THE POTENTIAL FOR ANY GUN LEGISLATION THIS SESSION. AMONG THOSE SEEKING THE SUPPORT OF NEW LEGISLATORS IS THE PRO-MEDICAL MARIJUANA ADVOCATES, WHO ARE ALREADY RALLYING FOR SUPPORT. YOU'LL HEAR FROM A KEY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE GROUP. THAT'S FOLLOWED BY COMMENTS BY DEMOCRATIC SEN. KAY HAGAN ABOUT THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMENS ACT, WHICH SHE IS CHAMPIONING. HAGAN EXPLAINS WHY SHE THINKS THE BILL SHOULD BE REAUTHORIZED AND WHY SHE HOPES IT WILL ONCE AGAIN HAVE BIPARTISAN SUPPORT. SEN. HAGAN IS UP FOR RE-ELECTION IN 2014. TOM JENSEN OF PUBLIC POLICY POLLING JOINS HOST DONNA MARTINEZ TO DISCUSS THE HAGAN RACE, THE SENATOR'S APPROVAL RATING, AND THAT OF SOME OF THE REPUBLICANS WHO MAY CHALLENGE HER FOR THE SEAT. JENSEN ALSO PROVIDES THE LATEST DATA ON PRESIDENT OBAMA, WHICH SHOWS THE MAJORITY OF NORTH CAROLINIANS DISAPPROVING OF HIS PERFORMANCE. SPEAKING OF THE PRESIDENT, WE GET PERSPECTIVE ON MR. OBAMA'S PRIORITIES FROM A NEW MEMBER OF NORTH CAROLINA'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION – 13TH DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN GEORGE HOLDING, A REPUBLICAN. HOLDING ALSO DISCUSSES PROSECUTING GUN VIOLENCE, WHICH WAS A PRIORITY FOR HIS OFFICE WHEN HE WAS A U.S. ATTORNEY. AND FINALLY, WILL SHE RUN FOR PRESIDENT? YOU'LL HEAR FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE HILLARY CLINTON, WHO SPOKE WITH CBS, ALONG WITH PRESIDENT OBAMA.

****ISSUES COVERED: STATE GOVERNMENT; NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY; MEDICAID AND MEDICARE; HEALTHCARE; EUGENICS; UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AND THE STATE UNEMPLOYMENT DEBT; STATE AND FEDERAL DEFICIT; THE EFFECT OF THE REPUBLICAN MAJORITY IN BOTH THE NC HOUSE AND SENATE; STATE BUDGET; TAX REFORM; EDUCATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION; STATE ENERGY POLICY; HYDRAULIC FRACTURING; GUN VIOLENCE AND GUN SAFETY; TAX DEDUCTIONS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES; VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT; CHANCES FOR KAY HAGAN TO BE RE-ELECTED IN 2014; PUBLIC POLICY POLLING; SENATOR KAY HAGAN'S APPROVAL RATING; ANALYSIS OF POSSIBLE OPPONENTS FOR HAGAN IN 2014****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH TOM HOWE", DIRECTOR AND GENERAL MANAGER OF UNC-TV

****ISSUES COVERED: THE SERIES "DOWNTOWN ABBEY"; UNC-TV PROGRAMMING; CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING; FAMILY ISSUES; MUSIC PROGRAMMING THAT'S NOT AVAILABLE ON COMMERCIAL TELEVISION; UNC-TV PLEDGE DRIVES; CORPORATION OF PUBLIC BROADCASTING AND PBS; THE COST OF RUNNING PBS PROGRAMMING; PUBLIC RADIO FOR THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA; LOCALIZING PUBLIC RADIO; THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF WILLIAM FRIDAY; "NORTH CAROLINA PEOPLE"; TECHNOLOGY RELATED TO STATE-WIDE COVERAGE****

PA BLOCK FOR 02-10-13

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATS REELING FROM DEVASTATING LOSSES AT THE BALLOT BOX AND A SCANDAL INSIDE STATE PARTY HEADQUARTERS HAVE ELECTED A NEW CHAIRMAN TO

LEAD THE PARTY BACK TO POWER AND INFLUENCE. PITTSBORO MAYOR RANDY VOLLER NARROWLY DEFEATED FORMER CONGRESSMAN BOB ETHERIDGE FOR THE POST. HOST DONNA MARTINEZ TALKS WITH VOLLER ABOUT HIS VISION, HIS MESSAGE, AND HIS STYLE, AS WELL AS HIS VIEW OF REPUBLICAN POLICIES. THEN STEPHANIE HAWCO OF NCN NEWS JOINS MARTINEZ TO TALK ABOUT TWO LEGISLATIVE BILLS THAT THIS WEEK DREW FIRE FROM CRITICS OF THE REPUBLICAN LEGISLATIVE MAJORITY AND PRAISE FROM SUPPORTERS. THE BILLS INVOLVE PARING BACK UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AS PART OF A PLAN TO REPAY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MORE THAN \$2 BILLION THE STATE BORROWED, AND A BILL TO CLEAR OUT DEMOCRATS FROM A VARIETY OF KEY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS. HAWCO ALSO TALKS ABOUT THE LIGHTER SIDE OF THE WEEK, AS EVIDENCED BY A BILL CALLED THE OPOSSUM RIGHT TO WORK ACT. THEN WE HEAR EYEBROW-RAISING COMMENTS MADE ON THE N.C. HOUSE FLOOR BY DEMOCRATIC REP. JEAN FARMER-BUTTERFIELD OF PITT AND WILSON COUNTIES. REP. BUTTERFIELD OPPOSES THE GOP'S UNEMPLOYMENT BILL, WHICH SHE SAID WILL LEAD TO A VARIETY OF SOCIAL ILLS INCLUDING "SUICIDES AND MASS KILLINGS." THAT'S FOLLOWED BY A LIVELY DEBATE AMONG FOUR PANELISTS OVER WHETHER NORTH CAROLINA SHOULD REQUIRE A PHOTO I.D. TO VOTE. REPUBLICANS ARE LIKELY TO PASS SUCH A BILL THIS SESSION, AND POLITICAL WATCHERS EXPECT GOV. PAT MCCRORY TO SIGN IT. PANELISTS AGAINST A PHOTO I.D. ARE BOB HALL OF DEMOCRACY NORTH CAROLINA AND ALLISON RIGGS OF THE SOUTHERN COALITION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE. PANELIST FAVORING A PHOTO I.D. IS JOHN FUND OF NATIONAL REVIEWER AND HANS VON SPAKOVSKY OF THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION. THE TRIANGLE CHAPTER OF THE FEDERALIST SOCIETY SPONSORED THE FORUM.

****ISSUES COVERED: STATE GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT; LEADERSHIP IN THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY; NC GEOGRAPHY; POLITICAL PARTY FUNDRAISING; STATE BUDGET; REDUCING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS; REPUBLICAN MAJORITY IN THE NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY; NORTH CAROLINA'S DEBT TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT; THE ECONOMY AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY; NC CRIME RATE; VOTER ID AND THE LIKELIHOOD OF ITS PASSAGE IN NORTH CAROLINA****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH ROY COOPER", ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

****ISSUES COVERED: SCHOOL SAFETY; GUN SAFETY; TRAINING FOR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS; LAW ENFORCEMENT; GUN CONTROL REGULATIONS; CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR AND CRIME PREVENTION; DRUG ABUSE AND DRUG PREVENTION; ABUSE OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS; METHAMPHETAMINE MANUFACTURING IN NORTH CAROLINA; ON-LINE SCAMS****

PA BLOCK FOR 02-17-13

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

TWO GOVERNORS ON ONE STAGE: FORMER DEMOCRATIC GOV. JIM HUNT PRAISES CURRENT REPUBLICAN GOV. PAT MCCRORY. YOU'LL HEAR THE TWO STATE CEOS REMINISCE ABOUT WORKING TOGETHER ACROSS THE AISLE AND WHAT'S TO COME FOR THE STATE. THEIR CONVERSATION TOOK PLACE BEFORE HUNDREDS WHO ATTENDED THE ANNUAL EMERGING ISSUES FORUM IN RALEIGH, WHERE MCCRORY WENT ON TO DISCUSS IN DETAIL HIS PLANS FOR ENERGY, TRANSPORTATION, AND SUPPORT FOR THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY. YOU'LL HEAR THE GOVERNOR'S COMMENTS. THEN THE DISCUSSION TURNS TO CRITICISM OF LEGISLATIVE REPUBLICANS BY DEMOCRATS AND THEIR ALLIES. HOST DONNA MARTINEZ IS JOINED BY RICK MARTINEZ OF NEWSRADIO 680 WPTF IN RALEIGH, SGRTODAY.COM, AND NCN NEWS TO DISCUSS THE GOP'S CONFIDENCE IN ITS POWER AND AGENDA DESPITE THE ONSLAUGHT OF CRITICISM. THE TWO ALSO TALK ABOUT NEW STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY

CHAIRMAN RANDY VOLLER'S POTENTIAL IMPACT ON THE PUBLIC DEBATE, AS WELL AS THE LOVE FEST BETWEEN GOVS. HUNT AND MCCRORY AT THE EMERGING ISSUES FORUM. NEXT ARE REMARKS BY PRESIDENT OBAMA FROM TUESDAY EVENING'S STATE OF THE UNION SPEECH, AND REACTION FROM NORTH CAROLINA REPUBLICAN CONGRESSWOMAN VIRGINA FOXX OF THE 5TH DISTRICT. FOXX TELLS DONNA MARTINEZ SHE HEARD NOTHING NEW IN THE SPEECH AND LAYS OUT THE DIFFERENCE IN APPROACH BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES.

****ISSUES COVERED: THE EMERGING ISSUES FORUM AT NC STATE UNIVERSITY IN RALEIGH; STATE GOVERNMENT; NC GOVERNOR'S OFFICE; TRANSPORTATION; ECONOMIC GROWTH IN NORTH CAROLINA; AGRICULTURE; MANUFACTURING; ENERGY ISSUES; NC'S DEBT TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT; MEDICAID; REPUBLICAN MAJORITY IN THE NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY; PRESIDENT'S STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS; ECONOMIC RECOVERY; EMPLOYMENT/UNEMPLOYMENT****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH BRAD WILSON", PRESIDENT AND CEO OF BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF NORTH CAROLINA

****ISSUES COVERED: HEALTH CARE INSURANCE AND OBAMACARE; THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT; HEALTH COVERAGE; MEDICARE AND MEDICAID; THE COST AND ACCESS OF HEALTH CARE INSURANCE; PREVENTIVE CARE; UNC HEALTH CARE SYSTEM; CAROLINA ADVANCED HEALTH; THE POVERTY LEVEL AND ELIGIBILITY FOR MEDICAID; MANAGING THE COST OF MEDICAID; HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS IN NORTH CAROLINA; NEGOTIATING INSURANCE RATES; THE RISING COST OF HEALTH CARE****

PA BLOCK FOR 02-24-13

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

THINGS GO LOUD AND RAUCOUS AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK AS ADVOCATES FOR MEDICAL MARIJUANA WENT AFTER AN OPPONENT OF LEGALIZATION FOLLOWING A HEARING. ADD THAT TO A DISCUSSION AMONG LEGISLATORS ABOUT WHETHER TO MAKE IT ILLEGAL TO GO TOPLESS IN ASHEVILLE AND YOU HAVE A RECIPE FOR AN UNUSUAL WEEK ON JONES STREET. PEOPLE IN POLITICS CORRESPONDENT STEPHANIE HAWCO TELLS HOST DONNA MARTINEZ ABOUT THE CRAZY WEEK, AND HOW NEW LT. GOVERNOR DAN FOREST IS ADJUSTING TO HIS NEW JOB. THEN MARTINEZ TALKS TO THE FIRST DECLARED CANDIDATE FOR THE U.S. SENATE SEAT NOW HELD BY DEMOCRAT KAY HAGAN. REPUBLICAN GREG BRANNON TALKS ABOUT HIS VISION AND WHY HE'S PURSUING THE SEAT THAT WILL BE ON THE BALLOT IN 2014. NEXT, MARTINEZ REPORTS ON AN ACCOLADE BESTOWED ON FORMER HOUSE SPEAKER PRO TEM DALE FOLWELL OF FORSYTH COUNTY. THAT'S FOLLOWED BY A PORTION OF GOV. PAT MCCRORY'S STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS IN WHICH HE LAYS OUT A SOBERING ASSESSMENT OF STATE REVENUES AND OPERATIONS. DEMOCRATIC REP. LARRY HALL OF DURHAM RESPONDS TO MCCRORY'S COMMENTS AND OFFERS AN ALTERNATIVE VISION FROM THE DEMOCRATS.

****ISSUES COVERED: NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY; STATE GOVERNMENT; MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA; PUBLIC DECENCY; ASSESSMENT OF LT. GOVERNOR DAN FOREST'S FIRST DAYS IN OFFICE; UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS; STATE TAX REFORM; THE U.S. SENATE SEAT CURRENTLY HELD BY SENATOR KAY HAGAN; HEALTH CARE; THE ECONOMY AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY; FEDERAL DEBT; POLITICS AND POLITICAL PARTIES; STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS; BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY; NC STATE DEBT; MEDICAID SERVICES AND COSTS; DEMOCRATIC MINORITY IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH U.S. CONGRESSWOMAN RENEE ELLMERS"

****ISSUES COVERED: REDISTRICTING; 2012 CAMPAIGN; FEDERAL DEBT; THE "FISCAL" CLIFF AND RAISING THE DEBT CEILING; SEQUESTER REPLACEMENT BILL; CUTS TO MILITARY SPENDING; SPENDING ON MEDICARE AND MEDICAID; SOCIAL SECURITY; BUDGET CONTROL ACT; FEDERAL TAX REVENUE; THE RISING COST OF HEALTH CARE AND HEALTH CARE INSURANCE; THE QUALITY OF HEALTH CARE; RECOVERY FROM THE RECESSION; NC'S LOSS FROM TEXTILES AND MANUFACTURING; JOB CREATION BILLS; FEDERAL/STATE ASSISTANCE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES; STATE TAX REFORM; IMMIGRATION LEGISLATION AND IMMIGRATION REFORM; EARNING U.S. CITIZENSHIP; NATIONAL DEFENSE; JOB CREATION AND SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT***

PA BLOCK FOR 03-03-13

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

A LEAKED POLITICAL STRATEGY MEMO THAT CALLS FOR NORTH CAROLINA PROGRESSIVES AND DEMOCRATS TO "EVISCERATE" THE STATE'S REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP MAKES NATIONAL NEWS AS GOV. PAT MCCRORY IS ASKED BY FOX NEWS TO COMMENT ON THE PLANNED ATTACKS AGAINST HIM AND OTHERS. YOU'LL HEAR MCCRORY COMMENT ON THE MEMO THAT WAS FIRST ATTRIBUTED TO THE UMBRELLA GROUP BLUEPRINT NC, BUT WHICH HAS BEEN CLAIMED BY AMERICA VOTES. THEN WE TURN TO FALLOUT FROM THE MEMO WITH DALLAS WOODHOUSE OF AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY NORTH CAROLINA. WOODHOUSE TELLS HOST DONNA MARTINEZ HIS GROUP HAS ASKED STATE LEGISLATORS TO INVESTIGATE THE ASSOCIATED PROGRESSIVE GROUPS, SOME OF WHICH RECEIVE TAXPAYER FUNDING. MEANTIME, THE STATE REPUBLICAN PARTY IS ASKING THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND THE IRS TO INVESTIGATE WHETHER CAMPAIGN AND/OR FINANCIAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS WERE BREACHED BY ANY NONPROFITS INVOLVED IN THE OVERTLY POLITICAL EFFORT. THEN BARLOW HERGET OF SGRTODAY.COM AND RICK MARTINEZ OF THE NORTH CAROLINA NEWS NETWORK ANALYZE THE STORY AND THE IMPLICATIONS FOR BOTH POLITICAL PARTIES. NEXT, DONNA MARTINEZ PROVIDES AN UPDATE ON REP. HOWARD COBLE'S HEALTH FOLLOWING HIS HOSPITALIZATION, AND A BLOG POSTING AT TALKINGABOUTPOLITICS.COM BY VETERAN DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL STRATEGIST GARY PEARCE IN WHICH HE ASKS NEW STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY CHAIRMAN RANDY VOLLER TO RESIGN NOW THAT PUBLISHED REPORTS SAY VOLLER OWES NEARLY \$300,000 IN BACK TAXES AND PENALTIES. THAT'S FOLLOWED BY A DISCUSSION WITH LT. GOV. DAN FOREST ABOUT HIS FIRST SIX WEEKS IN OFFICE, HIS FOCUS ON EDUCATION ISSUES, AND HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH GOV. MCCRORY. AND FINALLY, RESEARCHERS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA SAY THAT DIFFERENCES IN HOW OUR BRAINS ARE WIRED ACCOUNTS FOR WHY SOME OF US ARE REPUBLICANS AND SOME OF US ARE DEMOCRATS.

****ISSUES COVERED: POLITICS AND POLITICAL PARTIES; CONSERVATIVE AND LIBERAL ISSUES; "BLUEPRINT NC"; "AMERICA'S VOTE"; NON-PROFITS; AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY; ETHICS; STATE PENSIONS AND STATE LEGISLATOR PENSIONS; NC LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS' OFFICE; NC STATE AGENCIES; NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY; NC STATE INFRASTRUCTURE; NC STATE FACILITIES; EDUCATION; BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH JOHN HOOD", PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMAN OF THE JOHN LOCKE FOUNDATION

****ISSUES COVERED: THE NC GOVERNORS' OFFICE AND PAT MCCRORY: THE FIRST REPUBLICAN GOVERNOR IN NORTH CAROLINA SINCE THE 1970'S; EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT; INTERACTION BETWEEN THE GOVERNOR AND THE STATE LEGISLATURE; LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND STATE GOVERNMENT; NC GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL NEEDS; NC INFRASTRUCTURE; POLITICAL PARTIES; PARTISAN APPOINTMENTS IN GOVERNMENT; STATE TAX REFORM; SALES TAXES; AFFORDABLE CARE ACT; HEALTH INSURANCE; STATE BUDGET; ECONOMIC RECOVERY; EMPLOYMENT/UNEMPLOYMENT; BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY; MANUFACTURING; NC COST OF LIVING; NC INITIATIVE 6.0; SCHOOL SAFETY; GUN SAFETY; MENTAL HEALTH****

PA BLOCK FOR 03-10-13

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

REPUBLICAN LEADERS IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ANNOUNCED PLANS THIS WEEK TO MOVE A BILL THAT WOULD REQUIRE A PHOTO I.D. TO VOTE IN NORTH CAROLINA. THE PLAN WAS MET WITH INTENSE CRITICISM FROM DEMOCRATS AND ALLIED GROUPS. PEOPLE IN POLITICS CORRESPONDENT STEPHANIE HAWCO PROVIDES BOTH SIDES OF THE DEBATE. THAT'S FOLLOWED BY COMMENTS FROM REPUBLICAN REP. DAVID LEWIS OF HARNETT COUNTY, WHO IS HELPING LEAD THE HOUSE EFFORT ON THE BILL. LEWIS LAYS OUT THE HOUSE PLAN AND DISCUSSES CONTINUED OPPOSITION TO THE PLAN, AND COMMENTS ON HOW THE GOP WILL ADDRESS THOSE NORTH CAROLINIANS WHO DON'T HAVE A PHOTO I.D. THEN WE HEAR FROM MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS, WHO ALLEGE THAT REPUBLICANS ARE ENGAGING IN A WAR ON THE POOR AND VULNERABLE. NEXT, HOST DONNA MARTINEZ TALKS WITH ELON UNIVERSITY POLL DIRECTOR KEN FERNANDEZ ABOUT POLLING ON GOV. PAT MCCRORY, THE STATE LEGISLATURE, AND KEY ISSUES OF VOTER ID AND IMMIGRATION. FERNANDEZ ALSO PROVIDES DATA ON PRESIDENT OBAMA'S JOB APPROVAL IN THE STATE HE LOST TO MITT ROMNEY. NEXT IS A LOOK AT KEY ARGUMENTS IN THE LEGAL CASE OVER NORTH CAROLINA'S ELECTION MAPS. BARLOW HERGET OF SGRTODAY.COM TALKS WITH REDISTRICTING EXPERT BILL GILKESON JR., WHO WAS IN COURT RECENTLY AS ATTORNEYS FOR DEMOCRATS ARGUED AGAINST THE MAPS AND ATTORNEYS FOR REPUBLICANS ARGUED FOR THE MAPS. THEN WE TURN TO COMMENTS MADE BY GOV. PAT MCCRORY THIS WEEK AFTER MEETING WITH THE METRO MAYORS COALITION, A GROUP HE CO-FOUNDED WHEN HE WAS MAYOR OF CHARLOTTE.

****ISSUES COVERED: STATE GOVERNMENT; VOTER ID BILL; IMMIGRATION; PUBLIC OPINION POLLING FOR GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY, THE NC STATE LEGISLATURE, VOTER ID BILL, AND IMMIGRANTS; PRESIDENT OBAMA'S JOB APPROVAL RATING; THE ELON UNIVERSITY POLL; REDISTRICTING AND ITS LEGALITY; THE METRO MAYORS COALITION AND THE MAYORS MEETING WITH GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH ROB SCHOFIELD", DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT FOR NC POLICY WATCH

****ISSUES COVERED: LIBERAL/CONSERVATIVE VALUES AND VIEWS; FEDERAL DEFICIT; THE "FISCAL CLIFF"; FEDERAL/STATE BUDGET CUTS; HEALTHCARE AND MEDICARE EXPENSES; NC POPULATION GROWTH; STATE GOVERNMENT AND THE NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY; REPUBLICAN MAJORITY IN THE NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY; HEALTH CARE; AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE AND THE AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE ACT; STATE TAX REFORM; SALES AND PROPERTY TAXES; INCOME TAXES; PUBLIC EDUCATION; TERM LIMITS; THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE; NC INFRASTRUCTURE; GOVERNMENT SERVICES AND BENEFITS****

PA BLOCK FOR 03-17-13

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH WAYNE GOODWIN", COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE FOR THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

****ISSUES COVERED: NC GEOGRAPHY; INSURANCE; INFLATION AND INSURANCE RATES; REPLACING DAMAGED HOMES AND GOODS AND REPLACEMENT COSTS; CAR INSURANCE; AUTOMOBILE SAFETY; CAR INSURANCE COMPANY COMPETITION AND ADVERTISING IN N.C.; HOME OWNERS INSURANCE; THE DETERMINATION OF INSURANCE RATE INCREASES; INSURANCE CLAIMS; BUILDING CODES; INSURABLE ITEMS AND SPECIALIZED COVERAGE; FRAUD; THE ECONOMY AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY; STORM AND FLOOD COVERAGE; NATURAL DISASTERS AND INSURANCE COVERAGE****

PA BLOCK FOR 03-24-13

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

WE'RE GETTING A LOOK AT GOV. PAT MCCRORY'S COMMUNICATION STYLE. THIS WEEK AS HE PREPARED TO RELEASE HIS FIRST PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET, MCCRORY'S OFFICE RELEASED A VIDEO PACKAGE THAT RESEMBLED A CAMPAIGN COMMERCIAL. HOST DONNA MARTINEZ TALKS ABOUT THE VIDEO, AS WELL AS THE GOVERNOR'S TRAVELS ACROSS THE STATE, RICK MARTINEZ OF NCN NEWS, SGRTODAY.COM, AND NEWSRADIO 680 WPTF IN RALEIGH. THE TWO ALSO DISCUSS THE MEDIA PORTRAYAL OF THE VOTER I.D. ISSUE AS CONTROVERSIAL, DESPITE CONSISTENT POLLING THAT SHOWS THE VAST MAJORITY OF NORTH CAROLINIANS SUPPORT IT, AND FORMER LT. GOV. WALTER DALTON'S NEW JOB IN HIGHER EDUCATION. THEN BOB PHILLIPS OF THE PROGRESSIVE ADVOCACY GROUP COMMON CAUSE WEIGHS IN ON EFFORTS BY LEGISLATIVE REPUBLICANS TO MOVE FORWARD WITH REQUIRING IDENTIFICATION TO VOTE IN NORTH CAROLINA. NEXT IS A LOOK AT A POTENTIAL CONTENDER FOR THE 2016 PRESIDENTIAL RACE. CBS LOOKS INTO FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE HILLARY CLINTON'S PUBLIC STATEMENT THAT SHE NOW SUPPORTS SAME-SEX MARRIAGE, LEADING TO QUESTIONS THAT THE DEMOCRAT MAY BE PLANNING A 2016 RUN. THAT'S FOLLOWED BY A LOOK AT THE FINAL SPENDING NUMBERS FOR NORTH CAROLINA'S 2012 CONGRESSIONAL RACES. JONATHAN KAPPLER OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FREE ENTERPRISE FOUNDATION DELVES INTO THE NUMBERS, AND TELLS US WHO IS AMASSING A WAR CHEST TODAY. AND FINALLY, WE LOOK AT HOW GOV. MCCRORY AND LEGISLATIVE REPUBLICANS ARE FARING WITH THE PUBLIC IN THE LATEST ELON UNIVERSITY POLL. KENNETH FERNANDEZ ANALYZES THE RESULTS WITH DONNA MARTINEZ.

****ISSUES COVERED: NC STATE BUDGET; STATE GOVERNMENT; ECONOMIC RECOVERY; ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; LEADERSHIP IN THE STATE REPUBLICAN PARTY; NC LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S OFFICE; END-OF-LIFE CARE ISSUES; VOTER ID BILL; COMMON CAUSE; NAACP; CAMPAIGN SPENDING; 2012 ELECTIONS AND 2014 ELECTIONS****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH HOLDEN THORP", RETIRING CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

****ISSUES COVERED: COLLEGE ATHLETICS: COMPLIANCE AND CHEATING; ACADEMIC FRAUD; RULES VIOLATIONS; EDUCATION; LACK OF PROFESSIONALISM AT THE UNIVERSITY; PROTECTING THE EDUCATION RECORDS OF STUDENTS; STATE PERSONNEL LAWS; WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY OF SAINT LOUIS; RESEARCH GRANTS AT UNIVERSITIES; RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK; NIEHS AND RTI; PUBLIC AND PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES;

PA BLOCK FOR 03-31-13

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

AS THE U.S. SUPREME COURT HEARD ORAL ARGUMENTS ON SAME-SEX MARRIAGE, DEMOCRATIC SEN. KAY HAGAN DECLARED HER SUPPORT FOR GAY MARRIAGE. HOST DONNA MARTINEZ TALKS ABOUT THE POTENTIAL POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS FOR HAGAN'S 2014 RE-ELECTION BID WITH RICK MARTINEZ OF NCN NEWS, SGRTODAY.COM, AND NEWSRADIO 680 WPTF IN RALEIGH. THE TWO ALSO DISCUSS CATE EDWARDS, WHO TOLD NBC NEWS HOW SHE FOUND OUT ABOUT HER FATHER'S AFFAIR WITH RIELLE HUNTER AND THE IMPACT IT HAD ON HER FAMILY. THEN WE TURN TO A LOOK AT DATA THAT SHOWS NORTH CAROLINIANS HAVE A FAVORABLE VIEW OF NEW GOV. PAT MCCRORY. HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY (HPU) PROFESSOR MARTIN KIFUR PROVIDES THE DETAILS OF THE LATEST HPU POLL. BUT HOW IS MCCRORY FAIRING WITH HIS OWN PARTY? RICK HENDERSON OF CAROLINA JOURNAL ANALYZES REACTION FROM REPUBLICANS TO MCCRORY'S FIRST 90 DAYS IN OFFICE, THE GOVERNOR'S INITIAL MISSTEPS, AND WHY HE HAS SOME ISSUES IN COMMON WITH DEMOCRATS. THAT'S FOLLOWED BY A DISCUSSION WITH REPUBLICAN REP. VIRGINIA FOXX OF THE 5TH DISTRICT ABOUT HER PROPOSAL TO ADD POLITICAL "ROBOCALLS" TO THE DO NOT CALL REGISTRY. THE CALLS HAVE BEEN EXEMPTED FROM THE LAW BUT FOXX WANTS AMERICANS TO BE ALLOWED TO OPT OUT OF RECEIVING THE PRE-RECORDED CALLS. FOXX ALSO DISCUSSES SAME-SEX MARRIAGE AND REVEALS SHE HAS BEEN ENCOURAGED BY SUPPORTERS TO CHALLENGE SEN. KAY HAGAN. AND FINALLY, WE GET PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUPREME COURT GAY MARRIAGE ARGUMENTS FROM A NORTH CAROLINIAN WHO WAS IN WASHINGTON D.C. FOR A RALLY AS THE COURT MET. TAMI FITZGERALD OF THE N.C. VALUES COALITION – WHICH SUPPORTS TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE – EXPLAINS THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF COURT RULINGS ON NORTH CAROLINA'S LAWS.

****ISSUES COVERED: SAME-SEX MARRIAGE; POLITICS AND POLITICAL PARTIES; HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY POLL; GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY'S APPROVAL RATING; POLITICAL "ROBO-CALLS"; TELEMARKETING; 2014 ELECTIONS; SEQUESTER CUTS, DISCRETIONARY SPENDING, AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SPENDING; MEDICARE AND MEDICAID COSTS; NC VALUES COALITION; POLITICAL AND PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE VERSUS SAME-SEX MARRIAGE****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH TOM CAMPBELL", EXECUTIVE PRODUCER OF "NC SPIN"

****ISSUES COVERED: NC SPIN; CONSERVATIVE AND LIBERAL VIEWS; STATE GOVERNMENT; THE REPUBLICAN PARTY INFLUENCE IN NORTH CAROLINA; REPUBLICAN MAJORITY IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE AND A REPUBLICAN GOVERNOR; STATE BUDGET; THE FUTURE OF HEALTH CARE AND THE AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE ACT; SOCIAL SECURITY; MEDIA AND BROADCASTING; THE STATE'S INFRASTRUCTURE; REPAIRING AND MAINTAINING NC'S WATER SYSTEMS; TRANSPORTATION AND HIGHWAY NEEDS; BRIDGES THAT NEED REPAIR; THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE STATE'S ENERGY NEEDS; STATE DEBT; EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT; THE RECESSION; JOB CREATION; TAX REFORM; INCOME TAX, CORPORATE TAX AND SALES TAX REVENUE; PUBLIC EDUCATION; DIGITAL LEARNING;